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Bremerton Police Department Press Release

Three Injured in Incident Involving US Marshals While Arresting Gun Store Burglary Suspect

April 28, 2014 - Patrick Weldon Nelson, age 40, along with a female companion were taken into custody today about 5:00 PM by US Marshals in Forest Ridge Park in Bremerton. During the arrest, preliminary information indicates that one of the vehicles being driven by the US Marshals was rammed by the suspects, and shots were subsequently fired at the vehicle in which Nelson was located.

Preliminary information indicates that US Marshals were attempting to effect the arrest of Nelson, who is wanted by the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office in relation to a gun store burglary occurring in Gorst. Nelson was apparently seated in the passenger side of an SUV in a lot in the park, while a female was in the driver's seat. When Marshals effected the arrest, the female driver rammed a vehicle in which Marshals were located, apparently at high speed, based on the significant damage to the Marshal's vehicle. A photo of the scene is below, showing the gold suspect vehicle to the right, and the black US Marshal's SUV to the left.

In response to the vehicle being rammed, US Marshals fired at the suspect vehicle an unknown number of times. Both Nelson and the female were taken into custody. Both had possible injuries related to the crash, but there are no indications at this time that either were struck by gunfire. One US Marshal was taken to the hospital for injuries also related to the crash. No other US Marshals were injured.

Bremerton Police, Bremerton Fire, and Kitsap Co. Sheriff's personnel responded to the scene. The suspect are under guard and will be checked at the hospital before being jailed for numerous charges. Detectives from Bremerton PD, Washington State Patrol, and the Kitsap Critical incident response Team (KCIRT) will conduct an investigation, which is standard procedure for these types of incidents.

"Nelson has been a priority target of the Kitsap Co. Sheriff's Office, and I thank the US Marshals for their diligence and excellent work getting him into custody," said Bremerton Police Chief Steve Strachan, adding, "today's incident shows how desperate and dangerous this man and his female partner were, and I am very gratified that no law enforcement officers or residents were hurt."

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