BREMERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

1025 Burwell Street ● Bremerton, Washington 98337 ● (360) 473-5231

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE   August 12, 2013

On 8/10/13 at 0018 hrs. a Bremerton Police Officer was on bicycle patrol in the 300 block of Bryan Ave.

The officer's attention was drawn to a male subject who was crouched down, and quickly walked into the side door of a residence. The officer stopped and watched the side entrance to the residence, when he heard someone shout, "go get him!" After hearing this comment the officer saw a large brown pit-bull.

The pit-bull charged at the officers while growling. The officer attempted to use his police mountain bike as a barrier in an attempt to fend off the dog attack and to keep from being bitten.

The pit-bull was able to get around one of the tires and was attempting to bite the officer. The officer drew his side arm and fired four rounds at the attacking dog. Once shot, the pit-bull fled the area.

At 0939 hrs. an officer responded to an unrelated complaint nearby and saw a dog laying in the park with obvious injuries. The Pit-bull growled at this officer and then walked away. The officer followed the dog from a distance. The dog returned to its owner's address. The owner, an associate of the man who ordered the dog to attack the officer, brought the pit-bull out of the house and asked that we transport it to a veterinary clinic.

Kitsap County Animal Control took custody of the pit-bull. Bremerton police have learned that the owner chose to have the dog put down.

The male subject that the officer originally saw crouched by the door of the residence had fled the scene. He was located and arrested later in the day for Assault 3rd degree based upon him telling the pit-bull to: "go get him." Assault in the 3rd degree is a Class C felony for assault on a police officer.

"Police officers love dogs," said Bremerton Police Chief Steve Strachan, adding, "we hold the suspect responsible for the actions of the dog, and are very grateful nobody else was hurt."