



# BREMERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Felony Domestic Violence Assault Suspect Injured in Standoff with Officers**

A lengthy standoff with law enforcement ended this morning at about 8:25 AM when a 36 year old suspect in a felony domestic assault was shot after pointing a handgun at SWAT team members surrounding his residence and attempting to get him to come out peacefully.

Bremerton officers received information of a felony domestic assault, which allegedly occurred around midnight at the house. The victim and children were able to get out and go to another location, and contacted law enforcement some time later. Officers obtained information about the assault and attempted to make contact with the suspect at 4:48 AM this morning at the residence on the 1700 block of Shorewood Drive in West Bremerton. The suspect exited his residence, reportedly carrying a handgun, before going back inside. The suspect, who was apparently alone in the residence, refused to come outside or engage in conversation with officers by phone.

Based upon the suspect's actions, a search warrant was obtained for his arrest. The Kitsap County interagency SWAT team responded to the scene to carry out the warrant. Multiple attempts over several hours were made to communicate with the man by phone and loudspeaker; however, he refused to come out. SWAT members established a perimeter around the house, including a patrol boat in the water directly to the east of the residence.

At approximately 7:50 AM, initial indications are that the suspect placed his arm through a window and pointed a handgun at officers on the boat nearby. Team members on the perimeter fired in response and apparently struck the suspect. It is unknown at this time if the suspect got any shots off at the officers; no officers were injured or hit. The suspect went back inside, and after further attempts to get the man to come out or determine whether he had been injured, team members entered the residence at 8:25 AM and located the suspect, who had sustained wounds to the wrist and hip. A handgun was recovered, and the man was transported to St. Joseph's Medical Center in Tacoma. We have not received word of his official condition at this time, but the man was conscious and alert when placed in the ambulance.

The Kitsap Critical Incident Response Team, an investigative team made up of detectives from area law enforcement agencies including the Washington State Patrol, are conducting a comprehensive investigation of the incident.

Bremerton Police Chief Steve Strachan commented, “We appreciate the assistance of our partner agencies, and we appreciate the patience and understanding of the neighborhood in a difficult situation like this one,” adding, “Officers and deputies worked diligently to end this situation peacefully, but we have to remember that outcomes are driven by the decisions and choices of the suspect involved.”

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