



Press Release

Date: December 5, 2015

Re: Armed Subject with Hostages

On December 5th, 2015 at 8:56am Neenah Police Department was dispatched to the Eagle Nation Cycle Shop at 206 Main St. for the report of a person who was causing a disturbance. The initial information also indicated that the male subject fired at least one shot from a firearm. There were also reports that he had taken hostages. Upon arrival, officers secured the area and additional resources were requested from other agencies. Ultimately, the Neenah Police Department received assistance from the Winnebago County Sherriff's Office, Menasha Police Department, Town of Menasha Police Department, Appleton Police Department, Fond du Lac Police Department, Wisconsin State Patrol, and Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue.

At about 9:22 a.m. Neenah police received specific information that hostages were in immediate danger of being killed. Officers attempted entry into the building to rescue the hostages and were met with gunfire. One male Neenah officer was shot by someone inside the business. The officer was struck in his ballistic helmet which prevented the shot from being potentially fatal. The officers were able to exit the building and the wounded officer received medical attention. He was eventually transported to Theda Clark Hospital where he was treated and released.

A short time later a male subject exited the business with a firearm. This subject did not comply with officers' instructions to drop the firearm and was subsequently shot at by one or more officers on scene. We do not know if he was also shot at by the subject inside the business. Gold Cross Ambulance was able to provide medical care and transport him to Theda Clark Hospital. That subject later died as a result of his injuries. We are not releasing his name at this time. This male subject who died was not the

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same armed person who created the initial disturbance and reportedly fired one or more shots inside of the business.

Neenah Police Department's hostage negotiation team was able to establish phone contact with the hostage-taker at the business. They continued negotiations for the next several hours, and during that time hostages were released unharmed.

Just after 1 p.m. the male subject who is believed to have fired the initial shots agreed to exit the business and surrender. He was taken into custody without incident.

The officer-involved shooting will be investigated by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation.

We would like to thank the community members and business owners for their cooperation and understanding during the incident this morning. We are saddened by the loss of life in our community and sorry for the inconvenience that we undoubtedly created for many as we worked to ensure public safety.

We anticipate no further press briefings on this incident and will provide any supplemental information through e-mailed press releases. We will also post those press releases to our website.

Before I answer any questions, I would like to add this final point. The Neenah police officers who were quickly on scene today are among the most highly-trained officers in the state in handling critical incidents, and I am very proud of the skill and character that our team demonstrated in the face of very difficult and dangerous circumstances. I also want to thank the citizens and our city council for supplying us with the necessary training and equipment to safely handle these kind of life-threatening incidents.

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