Clallam County Sheriff's Office Ron Cameron Undersheriff

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Day & Date: September 22, 2022 Contact: Bremerton PD Lieutenant Aaron Elton

Release: Immediate 360-473-5978

OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING

On Thursday, September 22nd at about 2:07 in the morning, Deputies with the Clallam County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to a report of a domestic violence assault in the 300 block of Priest Lane, in the unincorporated area of Sequim. The victim reported her boyfriend hit her over the head with an axe.

Sequim Police Officers and Clallam County Sheriff's Deputies responded. Law enforcement located the victim on scene with a head injury. The victim was transported to Olympic Medical Center, where she was treated and later released with non-life-threatening wounds.

During the investigation, deputies attempted to contact the male individual inside the shop building on the property. While there, they heard a single gunshot coming from inside the shop (which also served as a residence).

Law enforcement officers maintained perimeter on the shop building and additional resources were summoned to the scene. Detectives with the Olympic Peninsula Narcotics Enforcement Team (OPNET) responded along with crisis negotiators with Sequim Police Department. OPNET Detectives and negotiators attempted to establish communication with the individual inside. Law Enforcement heard more gunshots coming from inside the shop. Washington State Patrol (WSP) SWAT team was requested and responded to the scene.

Law enforcement continued to attempt to establish communication with the subject inside the shop. Neighboring residences were evacuated, and Priest Lane was temporarily closed. Agencies attempted to negotiate with the subject inside the shop over the course of several hours. Multiple gunshots continued to be fired from inside the building and rounds were fired in the direction of law enforcement on scene. The suspect ultimately came out of the shop and fired a weapon at WSP SWAT officers. They returned fire. Medics from Clallam County District 3 rushed to the scene to provide aid to the subject, however, he died from his wounds.

In accordance with Washington State Law this case is being investigated by KCIRT (Kitsap County Critical Incident Response Team). Clallam County Sheriff's Office has partnered with KCIRT and several qualified cooperating law enforcement entities in order to satisfy the independent investigation criteria required by legislation surrounding officer involved shootings. The investigation conducted by KCIRT is in accordance with the LETCSA (Law Enforcement Training and Community Safety Act) - About LETCSA (wa.gov)