



# PRESS RELEASE

Eureka police department

To: All Humboldt County Media  
Date: March 5, 2009  
Subject: **INTERRUPTED BURGLARY ENDS AFTER STANDOFF**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FROM: Lt. Murl Harpham Phone: 707-441-4312

On 3-4-2009 at about 4:52 A.M., Officers of the Eureka Police Department were dispatched to a reported attempted burglary call at the 300 block of 15<sup>th</sup> Street in Eureka. The reporting party called the Eureka Police Department dispatch center to report that a subject was attempting to force entry into the back door of his residence. While on the phone with dispatch, the subject attempted to break a window to gain access.

Upon the officer's arrival, the subject fled to the roof of the residence and armed himself with a large piece of piping. The subject threatened to jump from the roof, if officers attempted to apprehend him. A perimeter was quickly established and negotiations were soon initiated. The subject was very difficult to negotiate with due to his admitted state of drug influence. He threatened to jump several times and at one point ran towards the edge, sliding to a stop at the edge. City Ambulance and Eureka Fire Personnel were summoned and staged during this event. Two Eureka Police Department Sergeants positioned themselves on the roof near the subject and negotiated with the subject for almost an hour. This negotiation was quite difficult, not only due to the suspect's mental state, but the fact that it was raining and the roof had a very steep pitch. The suspect was soon convinced to unarm himself and to descend the ladder to police custody. He was taken into custody without incident.

The suspect, identified as Tou Cheng (28 years old of Eureka), was booked into the Humboldt County Correctional Facility on charges of attempted burglary, resisting arrest, and being under the influence of a controlled substance.