



Humboldt County Sheriff's Office

826 Fourth Street, Eureka, CA 95501

DATE: February 11, 2015

FROM: Lt. Wayne Hanson
(707) 268-3641

SUBJECT: Update – Officer Involved Shooting

CASE: 201405787

UPDATE

Deputy Scott Aponte a 7 year employee of the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office is the deputy, who fired his duty weapon on 12-15-2014 at the female driver of the vehicle. Deputy Aponte returned to full duty at the end of January, 2015. The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office shooting review committee reviewed this incident. It was determined, Deputy Aponte did not violate any policies or procedures of the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, regarding discharging his firearm while on duty.

The female suspect, who was shot by Deputy Aponte has been identified as 25 year old, Andrea Frances Hunsucker. Hunsucker was struck one time on her left wrist by Deputy Aponte's firearm. Hunsucker has since been discharged from the out of area hospital, where she was being treated for her injury to her wrist.

The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office will be requesting a warrant for Hunsucker's arrest for felony reckless and evading a peace officer in a vehicle. Hunsucker is currently on the City of Eureka's most wanted list for 6 separate arrest warrants .

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The investigation into last night's officer involved shooting in 2300 block of Chapel Hill Road in McKinleyville is still ongoing. Sheriff's Office Detectives and members of the countywide Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) are currently investigating the incident. CIRT consists of investigators from the District Attorney's Office, Eureka Police Department, Arcata Police Department, State Department of Justice and the California Highway Patrol.

The male suspect, Michael Lawrence Barrett (age 23) remains in the Humboldt County Correctional Facility on a no bail warrant for Parole Violation out of Los Angeles. The unidentified adult female remains in a hospital, out of the area, with a non-life threatening injury to her hand. Investigators are still trying to confirm her identity due to her not cooperating with law enforcement. Neither Barrett nor the Deputy was injured.

The Deputy involved in the shooting is not being identified at this time and remains on administrative leave per the Sheriff's Office Shooting protocol which is standard procedure in a case such as this.

Barrett and the unidentified female have not been charged with a crime at this point pending the outcome of the investigation.

Further information will be released as it becomes available.

Anyone with information for the Sheriff's Office regarding this case or related criminal activity is asked to call the Sheriff's Office at (707) 445-7251 or the Sheriff's Office Tip Line at (707) 268-2539.

**Sheriff
Mike Downey**

PREVIOUS

On 12-15-14 at about 9:00 p.m., a Humboldt County Sheriff Deputy attempted a traffic stop on a vehicle on Azalea Rd. near Chapel Hill rd. McKinleyville. The solo Deputy had observed a black SUV and learned that the vehicles registered owner had a felony warrant. The vehicle initially failed to stop and continued to drive in the 2300 block of Chapel Road. During the traffic stop the suspect vehicle pulled down into a private driveway with the Deputy following. At this time, the suspect vehicle attempted to drive back out of the driveway towards the Deputies location, at which time shots were fired by the Deputy Sheriff. During the suspects attempt to evade the Deputy, the suspect vehicle had struck two parked vehicles in the driveway. An injured female inside the vehicle has not yet been identified. The adult female received an unknown type of hand injury and was transported to a local hospital for treatment. A male suspect fled from the vehicle and ran into a wooded area. Information was gathered that the fleeing male suspect may have been armed at the time he fled. A search of the area was conducted utilizing Sheriff Deputies, and responding officers from Arcata Police Department, Eureka Police Department and the California Highway Patrol. A Fortuna Police K-9 Officer arrived and assisted with the search. After several hours of searching, the Police K-9 located a male suspect hiding in the wooded area. The male suspect, Michael Lawrence Barrett (age 23) was arrested and transported to the Humboldt County Jail and booked for his no bail charge for the Parole Violation warrant.

A County wide Shooting Investigative team has been activated and is currently investigating the incident and conducting interviews with all of the involved subjects. The Deputy has been placed on administrative leave per the Sheriff's Office Shooting protocol.

