



Humboldt County Sheriff's Office

826 Fourth Street, Eureka, CA 95501

Date: 05-14-2014

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

Subject: Officer Shot

Case: 201402046

UPDATE

The Humboldt County Critical Incident Team (C.I.R.T) through their joint investigation learned that the suspect, William Nelson fired his handgun at the two officers. The two Officers fired back with their duty issued handguns after the Deputy was shot. The Officer who was shot in the chest area is Deputy Bang Cao, who has been employed with the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office for about 6 ½ years. Deputy Cao is currently still on paid administrative leave, until the investigation is completed by C.I.R.T. Deputy Cao is at home and is still recovering from his injuries and is under the care of a local doctor. The second Deputy involved in the Shooting is Sergeant Ken Swithenbank, who has been employed by the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office for about 25 years. Sergeant Swithenbank is also currently on paid administrative leave until the investigation is completed by C.I.R.T.

William Nelson is still currently being held in the Humboldt County Correctional Facility for attempted homicide of a peace officer and convicted felon in possession of a firearm and his bail has been set at \$ 600,000 dollars.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On 05-06-2014, at approximately 2:45 p.m., a Humboldt County Sheriff's Deputy and a Sergeant arrived at a residence on Kelly Lane, Shelter Cove to serve a court order civil eviction. When deputies arrived at the residence the suspect and homeowner, who has been identified as William Lloyd Nelson, 55 years old, shot at the officers with a firearm. Nelson shot one of the deputies in the chest. Both deputies

returned fire while fleeing from the residence. It is unknown whether the deputies struck Nelson when they returned fire. The deputies immediately radioed for assistance.

Additional deputies, California Highway Patrol Officers (C.H.P.), the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office S.W.A.T. Team, the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Crisis Response Team (Negotiators) and medical personnel responded to the scene. The Humboldt County Critical Incident Response Team (C.I.R.T) was activated and also responded to the scene to assist. The C.I.R.T. consists of investigators from local law enforcement agencies.

The deputy who was shot was airlifted by a California Highway Patrol Helicopter to a local hospital. The deputy's ballistic vest is credited with saving his life.

Residents in the area have been asked to shelter in place. Reverse 911 was initiated to area residences.

Shelter Cove Road at Willow Glenn, and Shelter Cove Road at Toth Road are both closed at this time. Nelson's condition and location is unknown at this time. He is believed to be in the residence.

William Lloyd Nelson is described as 55 years old, white male, 6'0" tall, 165 lbs, blue eyes, blondish strawberry colored hair.

The investigation is continuing.

Mike Downey

Sheriff

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