



Snohomish County Multiple Agency Response Team

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SMART Team investigating potential use-of-force incident

EVERETT, Wash. – SMART detectives are investigating a potential use-of-force incident that occurred during an arrest the evening of May 6, 2020.

At about 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Snohomish County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to the area of the 16900 block of Alder Way in unincorporated Snohomish County for the report of a 43 year-old man causing a disturbance. Deputies had responded to this location, once prior, for a similar call and found the 43 year-old male was uncooperative.

Arriving deputies spoke with a family member and determined an involuntary commitment was necessary, due to the likelihood of a mental health crisis. Deputies contacted the man in the back yard of the residence, where he was living. A short altercation ensued, wherein the male attempted to disarm the deputy. The rapidly evolving incident changed from trying to take the male into protective custody to a custodial arrest. The male continued being uncooperative and was transported by ambulance to Swedish-Edmonds. After arriving at the hospital the man lost consciousness and doctors determined he was suffering from a head injury. The male was transported to Providence Regional Medical Center Everett, where he remains in critical, but medically stable condition.

At this time, detectives are investigating how the man received his injuries. At least two earlier calls in the day indicate the man was a victim of an assault by unknown suspects. It is unknown if the man was injured during the altercation with deputies while being taken into custody, or if he sustained the injuries previously in the day. One deputy was also injured during the incident. He was checked out and released by medical staff at Colby Campus in Everett.

The four deputies involved in the incident have been placed on administrative leave, per agency procedures.

The investigation is being conducted by the Snohomish County Multiple Agency Response Team (SMART), a team of detectives from various Snohomish County law enforcement agencies who respond to, and investigate, police use of force incidents. When the SMART

investigation is complete, results will be forwarded to the Snohomish County Prosecutor's Office for review.

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