



PCFIT

Pierce County Force Investigation Team



Press Release

Puyallup Police Department Officer Involved Shooting – 1700 East Main Street

Puyallup Police Officers responded to a domestic violence incident in the 1700 block of East Main Street. The suspect was in violation of a served domestic violence no-contact order and had felony and misdemeanor warrants out for his arrest. The suspect opened fire on the officers when they attempted to contact him inside the apartment and the officers returned fire.

Puyallup, WA, February 23, 2023:

The investigation is active and ongoing. There are no new updates to report.

Puyallup, WA, February 16, 2023:

The investigation has determined six members of the Puyallup Police Department utilized force in this incident.

- Detective Greg Reiber, a 46-year-old male who has been with the department for 21 years.
- Sergeant David Beerbower, a 40-year-old male who has been with the department for 8 years.
- Sergeant Kevin Karuzas, a 44-year-old male who has been with the department for 16 years.
- Officer Patrick Thomson, a 34-year-old male who has been with the department for 4 years.
- Officer David Pollett, a 44-year-old male who has been with the department for 4 years.
- Officer Matthew Hurley, a 43-year-old male who has been with the department for 13 years.

For Immediate Release 1:00 p.m. PST, February 23, 2023

The investigation is active and ongoing.

Puyallup, WA, February 9, 2023:

The investigation is ongoing and further details have been confirmed.

One sergeant and three police officers from the Puyallup Police Department responded to the original 911 call. When they arrived, the victim told the officers that the suspect was in the apartment in violation of a served domestic violence no contact order and the suspect had threatened to kill her. The victim knew the suspect had felony and misdemeanor warrants out for his arrest.

When the officers escorted the victim to safety, the suspect locked and barricaded the front door to the apartment. Officers negotiated with the suspect for fifty-five minutes before attempting to gain entry. As officers attempted to enter the apartment, the suspect shot through the closed door with a shotgun. The suspect shot multiple rounds and the officers returned fire.

Three officers and the suspect were wounded by gunfire, none of whom had life-threatening injuries.

The 37-year-old male suspect was booked for Attempted Murder First Degree and Unlawful Possession of a Firearm as well as the domestic violence charges.

Six Puyallup police officers discharged their firearms during this incident and are on administrative leave in accordance with their departmental policies.

The investigation is ongoing.

Puyallup, WA, February 2, 2023:

The investigation is active and ongoing. There are no new updates to report.

Puyallup, WA, January 24, 2023:

At 1:17 p.m., Puyallup police officers responded to a domestic violence incident at an apartment complex in the 1700 block of East Main Street in Puyallup. The 911 caller said their ex-boyfriend had shown up at the apartment in violation of a domestic violence court order and was hiding in a closet.

Prior to their arrival, officers were able to confirm the male was the respondent on a served and active domestic violence no-contact order in which the 911

caller was the petitioner. The male also had confirmed felony and misdemeanor domestic violence warrants out for his arrest.

Once on scene, officers attempted to call the suspect out of the apartment. The suspect did not comply. When the officers attempted to contact the suspect inside the apartment, he opened fire on the officers and officers returned fire. Two Puyallup police officers were struck. The suspect barricaded himself inside the apartment.

The Metro Tactical Response Team responded. Negotiators made contact with the suspect via phone and P.A. announcements. After multiple hours of negotiations, the suspect came out of the apartment and was taken into custody at 6:53 p.m.

The two officers struck by gunfire were treated at the hospital for non-life-threatening injuries.

The 37-year-old male suspect was transported to the hospital for an injury to his hand.

Once the suspect is released from the hospital, he will be booked into jail for multiple counts of Assault First Degree, Violation of a Domestic Violence No-Contact Order, and outstanding warrants.

The Pierce County Force Investigation Team, comprised of members of multiple law enforcement agencies within Pierce County, was called to the scene for the independent investigation. The Pierce County Prosecutor's Office was advised of the incident. The Washington State Office of Investigations was also advised.

The involved Puyallup police officers have been placed on administrative leave in accordance with their departmental policies.

The investigation is ongoing.

Please contact P.I.O. Officer Wendy Haddow for more information

(253) 591-5968 / whaddow@cityoftacoma.org