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Four arrested in drive-by shooting

East Bremerton, Wash. -- Four young male adults are presently incarcerated in the Kitsap County Jail, awaiting court arraignment, for their involvement in a drive-by shooting early Tuesday morning.

Sheriff's patrol deputies and detectives responded to a residence in the 3800 block of NE Pinecone Drive, East Bremerton, regarding an initial complaint of malicious mischief. The occupants of the house thought that windows in the lower portion of the residence had been damaged by someone throwing rocks.

Deputies quickly determined that the windows were destroyed by shotgun blasts. An 18 year-old woman inside the residence sustained minor injuries to her legs and hands from fragmented glass from the damaged windows. Evidence was collected at the scene by deputies and detectives.

The investigation revealed that the young woman had been the target of harassing telephone calls, text messages and other forms of threats from a former boyfriend and some of his acquaintances. Detectives made contact with the victim's ex-boyfriend and the investigation moved forward as leads developed.

Investigators determined that a plan had been formulated amongst a group of six men, the former boyfriend and five others, which included the use of firearms as part of the pattern of on-going harassment actions toward the young woman and her current boyfriend. Three of the men took part in the actual assault, driving to the residence on NE Pinecone Drive and firing at least two rounds at the house from a 12 gauge shotgun, shortly after 3:00 a.m.

Detectives developed probable cause for the arrests of four of the six members of the group. The first suspect, age 19 from Bremerton, was contacted and arrested around 3:00 p.m. He was booked into jail on a single charge of harassment with bail set at \$10,000. A second suspect, age 18 from East Bremerton, was arrested at his residence about 5:30 p.m. He was booked into jail on a charge of drive by shooting, with bail set at \$50,000.

A search warrant was served at the residence of the remaining suspects, two brothers, in the 2600 block of Northlake Way NW, Central Kitsap. Investigators seized two 12 gauge shotguns and associated ammunition. During the course of the search warrant the two suspects drove by their property. They were subsequently stopped and taken into custody by patrol deputies around 11:30 p.m. Their vehicle was impounded.

- The younger brother, age 18, was booked into jail on a charge of drive by shooting with bail set at \$250,000.
- The older brother, age 22 and a convicted felon, was booked into jail for drive by shooting and for unlawful possession of a firearm. Bail was set at \$250,000.

The three suspects booked into jail on the drive by shooting charge are scheduled to appear in Kitsap County Superior Court at 3:00 p.m. today.

The suspect booked into jail for harassment will appear in Kitsap County District Court.

The investigation continues with a focus on possible charges against the remaining two suspects for their part in the harassment actions against the young women.

Note: none of the four suspects arrested was the former boyfriend of the victim. He is one of the two still under investigation.

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