



KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Intruder dies following assault in South Kitsap

Port Orchard, Wash. -- A late evening intrusion onto private property suddenly turned deadly, Saturday night, when the property owner was placed into a situation where he had to use lethal force to save his own life, and to protect his family, after being violently assaulted by an intruder.

The suspect, believed to be a 30 year-old South Kitsap man, was mortally wounded when shots were fired during the course of the assault on the property owner.

The injured property owner is a Washington State Patrol trooper. The trooper was off duty at the time of the encounter.

The assault occurred around 11:27 p.m. in the 8000 block of SE Nelson Road in the Olalla area of South Kitsap.

Kitsap County Sheriff's patrol deputies responded initially. Upon arrival deputies found the homeowner's neighbor performing CPR on the suspect. The neighbor had overheard the commotion and responded to assist. The neighbor is a student firefighter currently enrolled in the state fire academy. Additionally, a firefighter with Bainbridge Island Fire Department, riding with a patrol deputy as an observer, also assisted in providing emergency first aid / CPR.

South Kitsap Fire & Rescue engine and medic units responded to render emergency medical care. The suspect was treated at the scene then transported by medic unit to Tacoma General Hospital. He was pronounced deceased upon arrival at the hospital.

Patrol deputies initiated an investigation into the shooting as soon as the scene was contained and made safe. Sheriff's detectives continue with the investigation.

“Although the investigation is in its early stages, a preliminary analysis indicates that the homeowner was alerted to the presence of an unknown vehicle and person on his property and went outside to investigate,” said Detective Lt. Earl Smith. “The homeowner identified himself to the stranger as a law enforcement officer but, almost immediately, became engaged in a struggle with the intruder.

“The suspect struck the owner in the head with a piece of steel rod causing a serious injury and knocking him to the ground,” added Lt. Smith. “The victim managed to get up onto his feet and issued verbal commands to the suspect. When the intruder refused to comply, the homeowner resorted to the use of lethal force.”

A state patrol supervisor responded to the scene and transported the victim to St. Anthony’s Hospital in Gig Harbor for evaluation and treatment of his injuries.

Further details about this investigation will be released when determined appropriate by investigators.

The name of the suspect is being withheld pending confirmation of his identity and notification of next of kin by the Pierce County Medical Examiner.

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