

MEDIA RELEASE

Negotiators Talk Armed Wanted Subject Off a Rooftop

July 28, 2022

On Wednesday, July 27, 2022, at 4:32 p.m., Washington County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to the Sylvan Heights Condominiums in the 7500 block of SW Barnes Road near Portland. Deputies were told that 36-year-old Eric Lane was at the location and had a felony warrant for his arrest related to a parole violation. Deputies also learned that Salem Police had probable cause to arrest him for robbery in the first degree, coercion, and assault in the fourth degree, all related to a domestic violence incident that occurred approximately ten days earlier. Deputies were told that Lane might also be armed with a handgun he used during the incident in Salem.

When deputies arrived, they contacted Lane, who was uncooperative. Within a few minutes of contacting Lane, he climbed up on the roof of the three-story condominium he was in and began threatening to kill himself.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office's Tactical Negotiations Team and Crisis Negotiations Unit responded to the scene to assist.

Negotiators attempted to communicate with Lane by using a loud hail speaker and giving him several phones, but he initially refused to talk. After being on the roof for approximately two hours, Lane brandished a handgun and pointed it at his head. He later began responding to negotiators.

Over the next several hours, negotiators continued communicating with Lane.

At 11:40 p.m., negotiators talked Lane into coming off the roof peacefully. Lane laid his gun down and came down off the roof on his own. He was then taken into custody by deputies without incident.

During the incident, a reverse 911 was utilized to ask nearby residents to shelter in place.

Lane was transported to the Washington County Jail, where he was lodged on his felony warrant and additional charges.

The [Tactical Negotiations Team](#) (TNT) is an interagency, highly skilled, and well-equipped tactical unit that responds to extremely hazardous situations where conventional police tactics and equipment may be inadequate. Also known as SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics), TNT is made up of Sheriff's Office deputies and police officers from Hillsboro Police Department, Beaverton Police Department, Tualatin Police Department, and medics from Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue.

The [Crisis Negotiations Unit](#) (CNU) is an interagency team that works to create a peaceful resolution to what can be highly volatile situations. The team responds to many callouts throughout Washington County every year, often in tandem with the Tactical Negotiations Team. The team members are trained in crisis negotiation and use those skills to bring about the safest resolution possible.



SHERIFF
WASHINGTON COUNTY

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