

Redmond man in custody after 5-hour SWAT standoff

by Cheryl McDermott

A drunk Redmond man armed with a realistic bb-pistol went to the Terrebonne home of an acquaintance, causing the frightened women and two children who were home at the time to flee, then barricaded himself inside for almost five hours before surrendering to the SWAT team early this morning, Deschutes County Sheriff's deputies reported.

Peter Joseph Caswell "DCJ photo

It was shortly after 9:30 p.m. Thursday when a husband received a phone call from his frightened wife who had fled their Terrebonne home at 1784 Central Street along with their two children when an intoxicated man -- identified as Peter Joseph Caswell, 36, and apparently armed with a pistol -- was let into the house by one of the children, Sergeant Chad Davis said.

The husband called 911, and deputies, Oregon State Police (OSP) troopers, Redmond Police officers, and a Bend Police K-9 dog named Amor all responded to the family's home. Davis said they established a perimeter and tried to contact the suspect unsuccessfully by telephone and with loudspeakers.

The Central Oregon Emergency Response Team (CERT), the area's version of SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics), was called to assist. CERT used a portable telephone and additional loudspeakers in an attempt to contact Caswell, the sergeant said, and at 2:24 a.m. Friday the suspect came outside and was taken into custody without incident.

Caswell is lodged in the Deschutes County Jail for violation of parole on a previous fourth-degree assault conviction, and other charges are possible, Davis said.

No firearm was found during a search of the residence, the sergeant said, but deputies did locate a "every realistic looking" CO2 powered bb pistol "that is easily confused as being a real firearm."

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