



City of Red Bluff

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Kyle Sanders
Chief Of Police

555 Washington St., Red Bluff, CA 96080

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|----------------|----------------|
| Dispatch | (530) 527-3131 |
| TDD | (530) 527-3131 |
| Records | (530) 527-3134 |
| Administration | (530) 527-8282 |
| Investigations | (530) 527-8282 |
| FAX | (530) 529-4768 |

PRESS RELEASE

Case Number: 17-3755

Contact Person: Lt. Hansen / Captain Ortega

CRIME/INCIDENT: Vicious Animal/Officer Involved Shooting
LOCATION: 1200 Nelson Drive
DATE OCCURRED: November 12, 2017

SUMMARY:

On November 12, 2017, at approximately 9:30 a.m., the Red Bluff Police Department received a call of two large dogs running loose in the neighborhood of Nelson Drive. The reporting party advised the dogs chased a small girl on a bicycle and were acting aggressive.

A Red Bluff Police Officer responded by himself to this call for service and when he approached the two adult St. Bernards, they barked at him and came towards him aggressively. The officer used his pepper spray to deter the dog's aggressive behavior. The dogs then turned away from the officer and ran down the street. The officer followed the dogs in his patrol car in an attempt to locate the owner and residence from where they came from.

When the dogs turned into the front yard of a residence, the officer pulled his car ahead of the dogs and exited his patrol car. The officer made contact with a resident in a nearby house. As the officer was trying to determine if the dogs belonged to the resident, the officer was suddenly faced with the two St. Bernards barking and coming towards him aggressively. The officer was trapped between his vehicle and a fence as the dogs advanced. To protect himself, the officer fired several shots at the dogs injuring the one that was closest to him. The second dog did not run away when the shots were fired but instead circled around the officer's patrol car while continuing to bark aggressively. The officer fired multiple shots at the second dog when the dog again moved towards him aggressively. This dog sustained fatal injuries and died on scene.

After the shooting, many of the neighbors became hostile and emergency treatment of the injured animal was delayed until the situation was calmed and it was safe to do so. The injured animal was eventually transported to Valley Veterinary Clinic where a vet had been notified and was waiting to provide treatment. The animal was subsequently transported to the Cottonwood Veterinary Clinic when it was learned the local clinic did not have the equipment necessary to treat gunshot wounds. The dog's current condition is unknown.

The City of Red Bluff is an equal opportunity provider.

We, the members of the Red Bluff Police Department, are committed to being responsive to our community in the delivery of quality services. Recognizing our responsibility to maintain order, while affording dignity and respect to every individual, our objective is to improve the quality of life through a community partnership which promotes safe, secure neighborhoods throughout the city.



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Subsequent to the shooting, the Red Bluff Police Department initiated a comprehensive investigation. Due to the sensitive nature of the incident, the Tehama County District Attorney's Office was also asked to participate to provide independent findings on this rare occurrence.

During the course of this investigation it was learned that about the same time the two dogs chased the small girl on her bike scaring her significantly, one of the dogs bit a resident and aggressively came at another resident who also felt he was going to be bit and seriously injured.

It was also learned the dogs were brought into the neighborhood a couple of days earlier and had escaped from the residence where they were staying. The owner of the dogs was not present but has been notified.

Detectives are continuing to investigate this case and we ask the community to be patient with the investigative process. Additional information will be provided at the conclusion of the investigation.

Lt. M. Hansen #1170

11/12/2017

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