



Suspect Robert W. Terry

Sheriff's deputies arrested the 21-year-old suspect in a Columbia County shooting incident that hospitalized his mother Sunday afternoon.

Robert W. Terry, 21, St. Helens, is in custody at the Columbia County Jail on suspicion of Assault, and his mother, Dana D. Terry, 50, St. Helens was last known to be in critical condition.

Robert Terry was taken into custody by an officer on the perimeter of the house where law enforcement had gathered after attempts to hail him from outside the residence were fruitless. Two tactical teams -- one from Columbia County and one from Washington County had responded to the residence prior to the suspect being taken into custody at 9:50 p.m. by an Oregon State Police Trooper who had taken a position on the perimeter of the crime scene.

County Deputies and officers from the St. Helens Police Department converged on the scene just after 4:45 p.m. when a female calling from the residence at 1000 Railroad Avenue, St. Helens advised that a woman had been "shot in the stomach" by her son. The suspect was said to still be in the house, "possibly in the attic" and still with the gun, which was reported to be a .357 magnum handgun.

Deputies met the victim outside her residence and escorted her to an ambulance from the

Columbia River Fire and Rescue District. She was subsequently transported by ground to Emanuel Hospital with a gunshot wound to the abdomen.

Other police agencies responded to assist, as well as the multi-agency Critical Incident Response Team, which attempted to make contact with the suspect to no avail. As the afternoon wore on into the evening, fatigue was becoming a factor for some of the officers on scene. Local law enforcement resources had become stretched thin and additional assistance was summoned. Washington County Tactical Negotiations Team members began arriving around 9:45 p.m., just prior to the suspect being taken into custody.

"This effort was a combined effort of a number of entities both within and outside of Columbia County," said Sheriff Jeff Dickerson. "Fortunately for all concerned, this incident ended peacefully after such a violent beginning. The credit goes to all those who joined with us in bringing this to a successful conclusion."

Columbia River Fire and Rescue personnel helped with road closures and medical assistance to the victim and law enforcement officers. Columbia 9-1-1 provided a tactical dispatcher to the scene to help the command post in managing the crime scene and the many county deputies and officers from the various jurisdictions, including: Scappoose, St. Helens, Rainier, Clatskanie and Oregon State Police Departments. And the Sheriff also expressed his gratitude for the assistance from Washington County Sheriff Pat Garrett for his willingness to help.

After Robert Terry was detained, deputies executed a search warrant at the residence, searching for criminal evidence in this incident.

Terry is being held on numerous Probable Cause charges, including: Assault First Degree, Recklessly Endanger Another Person, Pointing a Firearm at Another Person, and Menacing. His bail is set at \$118,000.