Update re. Officer Shoots at Armed Subject

For Immediate Release
Jan 06, 2013

Arrested Suspect: Shawn J. Culberson, w/m, 1/24/65 of 144 Delmar Terrace South

Officers were initially called to 155 5th Avenue South regarding a complaint of a simple batter. The male complainant at that address informed officers that a subject later identified as Culberson had come to his residence and “sucker punched” him in the face. This was apparently the result of a disagreement the two men had had over a female acquaintance.

The complainant directed the officers to Culberson’s address at 144 Delmar Terrace South. As the officers approached the house to interview Culberson, he appeared in the doorway holding a handgun and pointed it at the officers.

Officer Jonathan Reeves, 27, (sworn officer since May 2011) drew his service weapon and fired one round at Culberson who was not hit and retreated back into his house.

As addition officers arrive on the scene, Culberson came out of his house unarmed and gave himself up. The gun found inside Culberson’s house turned out to be a pellet gun and he claimed that didn’t he did know it was police officers approaching his house.

Culberson is currently charged with Aggravated Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer and was transported to the Pinellas County Jail.

Information provided by Mike Puetz, 727-420-6448 michael.puetz@st.pete.org

Previous release of 1/6/13 at 8:24 p.m. ****************

Officer Shoots at Armed Subject

Information at this point is very preliminary, but at about 6:49 p.m. officers responded to a call of a simple battery at 155 5 Avenue South. A complainant alleged that a subject at that address had punched him in the face.

After officers arrived on the scene, a lone male subject was seen just inside the residence holding a handgun and then pointed it at the officers as they approached.

One officer drew his service weapon and fired one round at the suspect who was not struck. The armed suspect retreated
back further into house, but subsequently came outside unarmed at about 7:26 p.m. He was taken into custody without further incident and transported to police headquarters.

There were no injuries and a firearm was reported recovered from inside the house. The investigation is still ongoing and additional details including the names of the suspect and the officer involved will be released later.

I am informed that while this particular address is located close to USF St. Petersburg dormitories, it is a private residence not affiliated with the university.

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