



## SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT

155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

# MEDIA RELEASE

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### **INCIDENT**

**DATE/TIME:** Saturday April 16, 2016

**LOCATION:** 100 Block Beachview Ave

**TOPIC:** Suspect Barricaded Inside Home

**CASE NUMBER:** 16S- 03163

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### **INFORMATION:**

On Saturday April 16, 2016, at approximately 6:30 PM, Santa Cruz Police Officers responded to a report of a disturbance outside a home in the 100 block of Beachview Avenue. The disturbance involved a dispute over a hit and run collision that occurred at Mission and Swift Streets. The victim of the hit and run believed the other party was driving under the influence.

Officers arrived and contacted the hit run victim (32 year old male, Santa Cruz resident) in front of the suspect's home. The suspect came out on the porch and quickly went back inside the home when he saw the officers. Officers could see the suspect inside the home and attempted to contact him. As officers knocked at the front door, shots rang out from inside the home. The officers secured a position of cover along with the hit and run victim who was pinned down in the front of the home. The suspect was now barricaded inside the home with a firearm.

During the following minutes, Officers learned the identity of the suspect and that he had been served an eviction notice at the home last week. Officers also learned that the suspect owned a number of firearms and had threatened to "shoot it out" with police.

SCPD responded with our BearCat rescue vehicle to safely extract the hit and run victim away from the front of the suspect's home. Once the hit and run victim was moved to safety, the BearCat was utilized to secure the front of the residence and allow crisis negotiators a safe position to attempt contact of the suspect.

SCPD secured the homes on either side of the suspect's home and advised other residents to "shelter in place". Streets were blocked and traffic was diverted until the conclusion of this incident. Over the next several hours officers attempted to begin a dialogue with the suspect, but received no response. Meanwhile, additional Emergency Services Unit Tactical team members were called to the scene and deployed.

At approximately 1:15 AM on Sunday morning April 17<sup>th</sup>, the ESU Tactical team breached the garage door to the home and made entry. The team discovered the suspect deceased inside the home from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound. No other persons were inside the residence and no one else was injured during this incident.

The deceased suspect is a 52 year old male and was a Santa Cruz resident. His identity is being withheld pending confirmation of next of kin notification.

**For additional information, contact: Joyce Blaschke**

**Phone: (831) 420-5844**

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Anonymous tips can also be sent to the police department through our Tip Line (831) 420-5995, or from our Website; [www.santacruzpolice.com](http://www.santacruzpolice.com). Tipsters can also submit an anonymous tip via our smartphone app or from an SMS text. Visit our Website for instructions.

Photo at the scene of the BearCat - It was used to rescue a victim from the front of the suspect's home and allow crisis negotiators a safe position to attempt contact with the suspect.



Photo: SCPD Officers diverted traffic and blocked off the streets during the incident. SCPD secured the homes on either side of the suspect's home and advised other residents to "shelter in place".

