



Scenic Pacifica
Incorporated Nov. 22, 1957

CITY OF PACIFICA

Pacifica Police Department

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DANIEL STEIDLE
Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE

July 10, 2021

Attempted Murder Suspect Safely Taken into Custody Following 28 hours of Crisis Negotiations

Pacifica, CA- On July 9, 2021, at approximately 6:20 AM, the Pacifica Police Department was dispatched to the 300 block of Monterey Road on a report of a disturbance between roommates involving a knife. Officers arrived on scene and located one of the roommates with three stab wounds to her chest. As officers attempted to contact the suspect, she retreated into her house, where she barricaded herself.

Pacifica Police Crisis Negotiators and CIT officers were called to the scene to communicate with the suspect with the intention of achieving her peaceful surrender. Crisis negotiators consulted with a mental health clinician for advice as it was unknown if the suspect had any mental health conditions.

After twenty-eight hours of communications with the suspect, officers were able to take her into custody without incident.

The victim in this case is in serious condition at a local hospital but is expected to survive.

Ellen Knemeyer, a 62-year-old Pacifica resident, was arrested for the following charges:

Penal Code Section-664/187- Attempted Murder
Penal Code Section- 236- False Imprisonment with Violence
Penal Code Section- 368(b)(1)- Elder Abuse Causing Harm or Death

Daniel Steidle
Chief of Police

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