

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 1/25/2007

Larry Campbell
Sheriff

Sgt. Chris Chase
Public Information Office
(850) 922-0732

DEPUTY DISARMS KNIFE WIELDING MAN WITH TASER

A Leon County man was disarmed by a deputy's Taser after a short stand-off.

Late Wednesday afternoon deputies were called to a residence in the 1400 block of Barineau Road to investigate the report of an armed intoxicated man. As deputies arrived at the residence, they encountered a man in the yard holding a knife in each hand. When confronted by the deputies and told to drop the knives, the man reportedly refused. Deputies said the man, still armed with the knives, turned and assumed an aggressive fighting stance and told them to drop their guns. Deputy Richard Womble utilized Taser as Deputy J.D. Johnson covered the subject with his duty firearm. The Taser partially incapacitated the man for a brief instance. However, he still refused to drop the knives. Deputies attempted to knock the knives from the man's hands but could not. A second Taser was used which completely incapacitated the man and they were able to secure the knives.

The man was taken into custody under a Baker Act for mental health issues and transported to a receiving facility.

Sheriff Larry Campbell said, "This is clearly another instance when deadly force would have been used if a Taser was not available. A Taser stopped this man from escalating this situation to the point where deputies would have been forced to use their firearms".



Leon County Sheriff's Office

