



Chelan County Sheriff's Office

Brian Burnett, Sheriff

Law and Justice Bldg ★ 401 Washington Street #1 ★ Wenatchee, WA 98801
Phone: (509) 667-6851 ★ Fax: (509) 667 6860

For Immediate Release

Contact: Deputy Rich Magnussen

Incident #: 16C02042

Phone: (509) 667-6508

Date: March 1, 2016

<http://www.co.chelan.wa.us/sheriff>

*****UPDATE March 2, 2016 3:00 PM*****

The Special Investigation Unit has released the name of the deputy involved in Monday morning's shooting as Deputy Lee Risdon. He is a veteran officer who has been with the Chelan County Sheriff's Office since October 2006. Deputy Risdon has been placed on administrative leave which is standard procedure while the investigation is being completed.

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*****UPDATE March 2, 2016 11:00 AM*****

The Special Investigation Unit (SIU) has confirmed that the suspect, Robert L. Friess, was released last night from Harborview Medical Center after being treated for his injuries. Friess was transported back to Chelan County and booked into the Chelan County Regional Justice Center for Assault 1st and Felony Eluding.

SIU also confirms that a handgun has been recovered from the suspect's vehicle. The handgun will be sent to the Washington State Patrol Crime Lab for processing.

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*****UPDATE March 1, 2016 4:00 PM*****

The Special Investigation Unit (SIU) has identified the suspect who was shot early this morning as Robert L. Friess, a 66 year old male from Cheyenne, Wyoming.

SIU's investigation remains ongoing; more information will be released as it becomes available. No additional information will be released today.

Integrity ★ Teamwork ★ Excellence

Jason Mathews
Undersheriff



Dave Helvey
Chief of Special Operations



Chief of Patrol

Valerie Karnes
Chief Civil Deputy



Jan Brincat
Executive Assistant



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Sheriff Brian Burnett reports that at approximately 12:50 AM, a Chelan County Sheriff's Deputy contacted a vehicle in a parking lot in Leavenworth. As the Deputy approached the vehicle the driver displayed a gun, shots were fired and the suspect fled eastbound on US-2 in a 2006 Dodge pickup.

Two Chelan County Deputies pursued the vehicle eastbound on US-2. As the vehicle approached Cashmere, the Washington State Patrol deployed spike strips and punctured the suspect's tires. The vehicle continued eastbound on US-2 for approximately one mile before it left the roadway to the right and came to rest in a ditch. After a short stand off the suspect exited the vehicle and surrendered to Deputies.

The suspect was transported to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle with a gunshot wound to his hand. The suspect is identified as a 66 year old male from Cheyenne, Wy. No officers were injured in the incident. The suspect was alone in the vehicle and there are no additional suspects.

The investigation has been turned over to the Special Investigation Unit (SIU). The SIU team is comprised of investigators from Chelan County Sheriff's Office, Wenatchee PD, Washington State Patrol, East Wenatchee PD, Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Okanogan County Sheriff's Office, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Additional media releases will be handled by the SIU Team.

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