

# EAU CLAIRE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



## MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: April 25, 2018

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On February 8, 2018, at about 1:45 pm, Eau Claire County Correctional Officers were escorting an Inmate from a housing unit to a visitation room for an Attorney Visit. During the escort to the visitation room the inmate attempted to assault an officer with a fashioned weapon. The case was forwarded to the Eau Claire County District Attorney's Office and charges have been filed against inmate Emmitt M. Ritter-Simpson. For further details of the incident please see the criminal complaint.

Attacks on officers are difficult not only for the staff involved, but affects the agency and community as well. We are committed to providing training, guidance and support to our employees so they are prepared and able to handle the unpredictable and sometimes difficult nature of our profession. Sheriff Cramer and Administrative staff would like to reiterate, "It is clear our officers were placed in a dangerous situation because of the inmate's actions. Officers reacted to the threat in an appropriate manner based on their training and experience including adherence to office policy and best practices. We are proud of our staff for a challenging job they do day in and day out to maintain safety and security of the jail facility."

Sheriff's Office, per departmental policy, reviews critical incidents to ensure the incident was handled in accordance with best practices, policies/procedures and state statutes. In review of this difficult incident we confirmed our officers performed their duties appropriately and in compliance with the standards.

Ritter-Simpson was booked into the Eau Claire County Jail on January 16, 2018, and is currently being held on a \$50,000 cash bond related Eau Claire County Case 18CF97.