

# EAU CLAIRE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



## MEDIA RELEASE

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On Tuesday August 7, 2018 the Dunn County Sheriff's Office initiated a vehicle pursuit with a suspect involved in a harassment complaint near Rock Falls, WI. The pursuing deputy reported the fleeing suspect had a firearm and displayed behaviors that led him to believe the suspect may try to ambush the pursuing deputy. It was also reported the suspect had 2 warrants for his arrest. One out of South Dakota for a parole violation and one out of Dunn County.

The pursuit entered Eau Claire County along Highway 85 in the Town of Brunswick. Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office personnel responded to the area to assist. While personnel were enroute it was reported the Dunn County Deputies had lost sight of the vehicle and a perimeter was set up along several streets in the area. The Wisconsin State Patrol aircraft was requested to assist with an aerial search. As the search was being terminated, a Deputy on the perimeter reported seeing the vehicle approaching near Jene and Spehle Roads. After the vehicle the vehicle backed down Spehle Road for a distance, the suspect exited the vehicle and confronted deputies with a weapon. Two Eau Claire County deputies fired at the suspect striking him and ending the threat. The suspect was transported to a local hospital with non life-threatening injuries. There were no injuries to deputies or other individuals.

The 23 year old suspect, identified as Reese A Diesterhaft, is in custody on the outstanding warrants. Additional charges in Dunn and Eau Claire Counties are likely.

The Eau Claire Police Department is leading the investigation with the assistance of the Menomonie Police Department. A thorough investigation will be completed by experienced and independent investigators from these agencies. The investigation review will include examination of Deputy and witness statements, squad car video, forensic evidence, and other information related to what led up to this incident. At the conclusion of the investigation, a full disclosure will be provided by District Attorney Gary King.

Per department policy and best practice, the Deputies involved in the incident are on administrative leave/assignment pending review of the investigation. The Sheriff and Administrative Staff have confidence in the decision making actions and professionalism of the Deputies involved. We further believe the independent review will yield the same results. The names of the Deputies involved will be released early next week after their interviews are completed by the outside agency investigators.

Respectfully – Sheriff Ron Cramer