



Owensboro Police Department

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Chief of Police

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NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE: Public Information Office
DATE OF RELEASE: July 29, 2022
REPORT NUMBER: 22-29638
SUBJECT: Armed Barricaded Subject
RELEASED BY: Lieutenant Courtney Yerington

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On July 28, 2022 at approximately at 9:31 pm, officers responded to a residence in the 2300 block of Citation Avenue for a suicidal subject. Upon arrival, officers made verbal contact with the subject (James Bearley, 53) who refused to exit the home and speak with officers. Further investigation revealed that a 4 year old child was inside the residence after Bearley had forced the biological parents of the child from the home. Officers were informed Bearley was intoxicated and possibly armed. Despite numerous requests, Bearley refused to release the child so officers could confirm the child's welfare.

The Owensboro Police Department Emergency Response Team, Crisis Negotiation Unit and Criminal Investigation Detectives responded to the residence. After several hours, OPD crisis negotiators convinced Bearley to release the child. As the child exited the home, members of the Emergency Response Team were able to safely remove him from the area. Following the child's release, a search warrant was obtained and the Emergency Response Team began implementation of Armed Barricaded Subject Procedures. Bearley surrendered after a short period of time and was taken into custody. He was charged with Unlawful Imprisonment 1st Degree, Endangering the Welfare of a Minor, and Possession of a Firearm by Convicted Felon.