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Man wanted for firing shots killed after wounding officer

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A Flagstaff police officer was wounded and a man with mental problems was killed in an exchange of gunfire Monday in a residential neighborhood west of Fort Valley Road.

The officer, Detective Todd Bishop, was listed in good condition Monday night at Flagstaff Medical Center.

The suspect, Mark Edward Steiger, 38, was pronounced dead at FMC at 1:35 p.m. Monday.

Steiger had been reported missing by his family on Saturday and had been the subject of a weekend search amid police reports that he had illegally fired shots Sunday within city limits.

He had not been taking his required medication for months, a police spokesman said, referring to information from Steiger's family.

Weekend reports had Steiger shooting at an unoccupied vehicle, and he was still at large Monday morning.

Police had sought Steiger in order to take him into custody and put him back on "essential medications," the department said in a statement.

Flagstaff police officers found Steiger on a ridge near the FUTS trail at Crescent and Venus drives at about 1:05 p.m.

Monday, Sgt. Tom Boughner said.

Several officers approached Steiger, who fired shots.

Detective Todd Bishop was hit.

Flagstaff police officers returned fire and hit Steiger, Boughner said.

Neighbors on Crescent Drive reported hearing two rapid shots across the Rio de Flag, then four or five more.

Police officers were scanning nearby houses shortly afterward, looking for bullet holes.

Bishop was transported to Flagstaff Medical Center by helicopter, where he was listed in good condition as of Monday evening.

He is a member of a tactical team and has been a Flagstaff police officer for about 10 years.

Steiger was transported to FMC by ambulance, where he was pronounced dead at 1:35 p.m. Monday.

Neighbors in Coconino Estates reported hearing helicopters and seeing police cars throughout the weekend, where officers tried to box Steiger in on Monday.

Schools in the area were put on partial lockdown as a precaution during the standoff, according to police officials.

April Lyons, a neighbor of Steiger's mother, said Mark Steiger traveled, lived in Sedona and visited his mother in Cheshire. She confirmed reports that Steiger had mental health problems, but said he was typically a pleasant person.

"I can say they're a real nice family," Lyons said.

Officers were called to Steiger's home Sunday on a report of shots fired in the city limits.

Steiger managed to evade capture then and had last been seen in a wooded area south of Cheshire armed with a gun.

"We never felt like there was much danger to the public because he did not harm his family," Boughner said of Steiger.

Steiger's aggression appeared to be reserved for the police, Boughner said.