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HUSBAND SHOT AFTER STANDOFF WITH COPS

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Article Text:

A Hebron man was taken to at University Hospital late Monday night after a Boone County deputy sheriff shot him in the chest following a standoff.

Lee Murphy, 43, of 1940 Elijah Creek Road, threatened deputies and aimed a gun at one of them before he was shot, sheriff's spokesman Tom Scheben said.

Hospital officials could not confirm Murphy's condition Tuesday morning.

Deputies were called to Murphy's house about 10:30 p.m. for a report of a man arguing with his wife.

When the first deputy arrived, Murphy and his wife were arguing in the side yard. Murphy went in the house, and in order to separate the two, the deputy kept the wife from going in with him, Scheben said.

A standoff followed for about an hour, with deputies calling out the SWAT team and cordoning off the area. Murphy kept coming out of the house and going back in, making threats at deputies, Scheben said.

Deputies called for a Taser and beanbag shotgun from the airport police, he said, to try to resolve the situation that way. But before the equipment arrived, about 11:45 p.m., Murphy came out and leveled a gun at a deputy, who shot him in the chest, Scheben said.

The deputy who shot him was placed on administrative leave, as called for by procedures at the sheriff's office.

Scheben would not reveal the deputy's name.

The deputy is a 10-year veteran of law enforcement, the sheriff's office said in a news release.

The incident is being investigated by the Boone County Sheriff's Department Criminal Investigations unit.

Shootings by the Boone County Sheriff's Office deputies are fairly rare.

In July 2001, a Boone County Sheriff's deputy shot and killed a 19-year-old Florida man inside a stolen car after the man pointed a pellet gun designed to look like a large caliber handgun at another officer, authorities said.

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