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A suicide, a standoff | Unrelated incidents keep Brookfield police busier than usual this weekend

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Article Text:

A Brookfield neighborhood is returning to normal after a standoff Saturday brought out police tactical teams and forced home evacuations. But the Brookfield Police Department is still winding down from an intense weekend that saw both the standoff and a suicide committed during a traffic stop.

Brookfield police Capt. Jim Adlam said residents were glad to see Joseph Dandridge, 25, taken into custody about six hours after he holed up inside a home on Mayfair Drive on Saturday afternoon.

Dandridge fled a traffic crash on Highway 45 near Burleigh Road that killed his 8-year-old stepson, Donovan, before he rushed past the 67-year-old owner of the home and barricaded himself inside alone, according to police reports.

"He says he's very confused about it," Adlam said. "We don't know exactly why he ran from the scene, but he did have warrants for his arrest. We also believe intoxicants are involved." After negotiations between Dandridge and a crisis intervention team broke down, officers fired tear gas into the home and found Dandridge in the basement, reports said.

Adlam said the homeowners have been temporarily displaced due to damage sustained to the home.

Traffic stop suicide Saturday's standoff came about a day after Brian C. Beardsley, 38, of West Allis committed suicide during a traffic stop on Bluemound Road.

Greenfield police Detective Sgt. Michael Brunner said Beardsley was being investigated on suspicion of sexually assaulting a child over a 10-year period.

"In working with different witnesses in the case, they provided information that (Beardsley) was possibly armed with a handgun," he said.

Adlam said that information led officers to conduct a "highrisk" traffic stop after Beardsley was spotted driving at Brookfield Square Mall on Friday.

"We knew he was armed with a handgun. We had a pretty good feeling that if we made contact with him there would be some kind of an incident," Adlam said.

Officers parked behind Beardsley's truck in the 19400 block of Bluemound Road and shouted commands, Adlam said, but found that Beardsley had already taken his own life.

Bluemound Road was shut down for nearly two hours.

Business as usual Adlam said his phone was ringing off the hook Monday with inquiries about the atypically chaotic weekend. "It's something that I wouldn't say you get used to, but we expect this type of thing," Adlam said.

WHO'S ON THE HOOK? The owners of the home that Joseph Dandridge barricaded himself inside have been temporarily displaced due to damage incurred when police fired canisters of

tear gas inside.

Who will pick up the tab for the damage? "I don't know who the financial burden falls on," Brookfield police Capt. Jim Adlam said. "These situations are handled much like a fire in the home - you contact your insurance company." Adlam added that safety of citizens, police and the suspect in standoff situations takes priority over possible property damage.

Caption:

A Waukesha County Sheriff's Department squad car blocks the intersection of 128th and Wright streets Saturday evening. NOW Photo by Peter Zuzga Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke Jr. speaks to the media Saturday about the man who holed up in the Brookfield home. NOW Photo by Peter Zuzga Emergency vehicles line Wright Street near Mayfair Drive on Saturday evening. Law enforcement officers surrounded a home on Mayfair Drive where a man involved in a fatal car crash earlier in the day had barricaded himself. The man was arrested later in the evening.

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