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******PRESS RELEASE****WALLA WALLA POLICE DEPT******
Kidnap Suspect Arrested After Standoff

January 6, 2016

Walla Walla Police were dispatched to the 00 block of Cherokee for a report of a subject making threats to kill himself and others. Officers received the call shortly after 7:15 p.m. that 29 year old Kemp W. Lamunyon Jr. had forced a family member at gunpoint to drive him to the residence of his ex-girlfriend and her current boyfriend. Officers arrived at the scene after checking the area for the suspect vehicle, a blue Chrysler minivan.

The victims told officers that Lamunyon had threatened by text message that he was coming to kill both of them and to get the kids out of the house. Lamunyon and the female victim have a history of Domestic Violence, causing both victims to be in extreme fear for their lives. While officers were interviewing the victims, additional texts were sent from Lamunyon's phone, to include a threat to kill the family member who was being forced to drive the vehicle. Officers were told that Lamunyon was armed with two handguns.

Officers located the vehicle being driven westbound on Chestnut before turning South onto 2nd Avenue. A high-risk stop was initiated on the vehicle on 2nd, near Cherokee Street at 7:45 p.m. Washington State Patrol and Deputies from the Walla Walla County Sheriff's Office assisted and 2nd Ave was closed to traffic. The driver of the vehicle was ordered out of the vehicle and was later treated for chest pains at a local hospital. He told officers there were 2 handguns in the vehicle.

Lamunyon refused officers commands to comply and made threats to shoot them. After repeated attempts, a WWSO Deputy applied a less-lethal "beanbag" round, striking Lamunyon in the leg with little effect. He continued to refuse to comply with commands and a WWPD K-9 was deployed. Lamunyon was able to get back in the car before the dog was able to make contact.

A WWPD Crisis Negotiator began conversing with Lamunyon and was able to get him to surrender at 9:15 p.m. An empty handgun holster was found on Lamunyon at the time of his arrest. The vehicle was impounded and will be searched pending issuance of a search warrant.

Following an evaluation by mental health professionals, Lamunyon was lodged in jail for 1st Degree Kidnapping and three counts of Felony Harassment.

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