



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Armed man in police standoff is in serious, but stable, condition

A suicidal man who pointed a weapon at police during a standoff this morning in Columbia is in serious, but stable, condition after he was shot one time by an officer at the scene.

The man has been identified as James Andrew Schueler, 42, of Columbia. Preliminary investigation has revealed that Schueler's gun was a replica pellet gun, nearly identical to a semi-automatic pistol. Police have released a photo of the weapon found at the scene.

At approximately 7:05 a.m., a friend of Schueler's called 911 to report that she had just spoken to him and he had talked about harming himself and family members, and had referenced committing suicide by cop.

Officers were dispatched to the area and at 7:28 a.m., they spotted a green Jeep Cherokee that matched the description given by the caller. They stopped the car at the corner of Hayshed Lane and Tamar Drive, but the driver, a white male later identified as Schueler, refused to get out of the vehicle. He told police that he had a gun and intended to hurt himself. He then held the gun to his head.

Officers began setting up a perimeter and called for negotiators.

At 8:16 a.m., Schueler exited the vehicle and pointed the gun toward officers nearby. An officer fired one shot, striking him in the torso. Police tactical medics, who are officers specially-trained to provide immediate care, were on scene and provided immediate aid.

Schueler was transported by helicopter to the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center and remains in serious, but stable, condition. The officer has been placed on administrative leave, which is standard procedure after this type of incident. He will be identified as soon as that information can be released.

All roads that were closed for the investigation in the area have been reopened.

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