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7-hour police standoff ends without arrest

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Entry Title

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Grand Rapids Deputy Police Chief Eric Payne stands in the rain during a police standoff on the 900 block of Franklin Street SE in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on Monday, May 21, 2018. Police ended a more than seven hour standoff without locating a man believed to have been involved in a robbery-turned-homicide earlier in the day. "Our tactical team entered the residence and did a methodical search for bodies to see if anyone was in there but we did not locate anyone," said Payne. "I want to say to the citizens of Grand Rapids, thank you for cooperating with us. This was a huge disruption, we realize that, but we had to work this the way our procedure calls for and it's for the safety of everyone." Payne said the department handled Monday's situation slowly with hope that the potentially violent man believed to be inside the residence would come out peacefully and without further incident. The suspect, Willie Martin Bryant Jr., 33, is believed to have shot and killed Shannon Rozanski-Schoen, 48, while she was working at a Marathon gas station at 205 28th St. SW. A day earlier, Bryant is accused of shooting 55-year-old Annette Vaught while she was doing yard work with her grandson outside of her home after an argument escalated to violence in the 900 block of Thomas Street SE. Witnesses say he shot her in the shoulder, then again in the face when she went to the ground. Bryant was later arrested on Monday night after police received a tip that he was inside the McDonald's Restaurant at 417 Michigan St. NE. He was taken into custody without a struggle, police said.

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