

The Latest: Police say suspect began fire, shot at - Associated Press State Wire: Maryland (MD) - January 26, 2018

January 26, 2018 | Associated Press State Wire: Maryland (MD)

LITTLE ORLEANS, Md. (AP) — The Latest on a standoff that ended with a suspect dead and two officers wounded (all times local):

12:30 p.m.

Maryland State Police say a standoff that ended this morning with a suspect dead and two troopers wounded began with a domestic violence call just before midnight.

Officers say the man's wife told police that they were arguing when her husband pulled out a gun and said "this ends today." She said they struggled and fell and the gun went off before she escaped to a neighbor's house to call for help.

The police statement says troopers established a perimeter around the house in Little Orleans, Allegany County. Police said he refused to surrender and said he was not coming out.

As a Special Tactical Assault Team Element began to enter the home, police say the suspect ignited a fire and then shot at the troopers, who fired back.

The officers were taken to a trauma center in Baltimore with leg wounds and later released from the hospital. The suspect was pronounced dead at a nearby medical center.

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12:12 p.m.

A man has been shot dead and two state troopers have been wounded following a standoff in Maryland.

The Cumberland Times-News reported Friday the standoff began late Thursday at a home in Little Orleans, Allegany County, which is near the Pennsylvania border.

The troopers were flown about 120 miles (193 kilometers) to Baltimore to be treated for leg wounds at a trauma center. Maryland State Police said the troopers were conscious and alert.

Maryland State Police identified the suspect as 52-year-old **William Charles Mackenzie**.

Police said the incident began with an argument between Mackenzie and his wife. He allegedly pulled out a handgun, telling her "this ends today."

A struggle ensued. Husband and wife fell to the ground and the gun went off. She escaped, running to a neighbor's house and calling the police.

The police response was large, with tactical units of camouflaged and well-armed troopers surrounding the home. The troopers tried to communicate with Mackenzie using a loudspeaker from an armored vehicle, but they said he refused to surrender.

Tactical assault team officers finally entered the residence Friday morning. State police said Mackenzie fired at the troopers, hitting their "lower extremities" before they returned fire, killing him.

As the troopers entered, a fire had started inside the home. Police said they believe Mackenzie started the blaze, which fire personnel extinguished.

Information from: Cumberland (Md.) Times-News, <http://www.times-news.com/timesnew.html>

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