

**WASHINGTON COUNTY**  
**CRITICAL INCIDENT TASK FORCE**  
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**November 20, 2012**

**For Immediate Release**

**Incident at Purgatory Correctional Facility and Subsequent Officer Involved Shooting**

The Washington County Critical Incident Task Force has been deployed to investigate the officer involved shooting that occurred in Hurricane, Utah on the evening of November 19, 2012.

The investigation is ongoing and investigators from multiple agencies are actively working on the case.

Based upon the initial investigation, on November 19, 2012 at approximately 6:00 PM, St. George Police Department officers arrested Joann Boone (age 48) in St. George, Utah, for two no-bail parole violation warrants issued by the State of Nevada as well as a Hurricane City Justice Court warrant.

A St. George Police officer transported Boone to the Washington County Purgatory Correctional Facility in Hurricane, Utah for booking. According to initial interviews with the transporting officer, Boone was searched and handcuffed for transport. When the officer arrived at the jail and opened the passenger door, he discovered that Boone was holding a gun in her hand-cuffed hands and pointing it at him from behind her back. The officer retreated and Boone gained access to the driver's seat in the police vehicle, started the engine, and drove the police vehicle through the closed rolling door of the jail's sally port.

Officers from multiple law enforcement agencies were involved in the ensuing pursuit of Boone. The pursuit went through Hurricane City and LaVerkin City. Boone drove to I-15 and went southbound from the LaVerkin area. A Utah Highway Patrol Trooper deployed tire deflating road spikes on I-15 and successfully deflated a tire on the stolen police vehicle. Boone continued to flee from officers at a high rate of speed, eventually turning eastbound on SR-9 heading back toward Hurricane City, Utah.

Boone drove to the Chevron gas station located at 40 North 6300 West in Hurricane and pulled into a parking stall in front of the store. Boone exited the stolen police vehicle and attempted to enter another parked vehicle

Officers arrived immediately and confronted Boone. According to initial statements, Boone was still handcuffed but brandishing a gun. A Washington County Sheriff's Deputy fired one shot from the Deputy's duty hand gun at Boone.

Boone was struck in the hip and collapsed as a result of her injuries. She was taken into custody. Medical personnel responded and Boone was transported to Dixie Regional Medical Center where she is currently being treated. The firearm used by Boone was recovered at the scene.

The investigation into alleged criminal actions involving Boone is being conducted by the Hurricane City Police Department.

The investigation into the actions and responses of the officers involved is being conducted by the Washington County Critical Incident Task Force, under the direction of Washington County Attorney Investigator Barry Golding.

Request for Assistance

Investigators are looking for anyone with information regarding this incident. Please contact Investigator Barry Golding at 435-986-2606 if you saw or heard anything.

Contact

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