



Char Jackson, Public Information Officer

Cjackson@cityofcaldwell.org

Phone: (208) 455-4524

CALDWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

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Today at 5:30 p.m., officers responded to the area of West Easy Street, between Dorman and Airport Avenue after receiving a report that a man was walking in the area shooting a handgun near the canal bank. Reporting parties stated that the man was making comments about harming himself and was actively shooting rounds into the air and ditch bank.

Caldwell Police Officers, Canyon County Sheriff Deputies and Idaho State Police responded and quickly set up a perimeter to keep residents safe. Officers began evacuating nearby homes and Canyon County Dispatch also sent out a reverse 911 to residents in the area advising them to shelter in place.

After the man was quickly located, Caldwell Police attempted to verbalize and use less lethal munitions in an attempt to deescalate, but no rounds made contact with the suspect. A short time later, and after further attempts to verbally deescalate, the suspect discarded the firearm, surrendered peacefully and without further incident. The firearm was recovered.

The man was transported to a nearby hospital where he was treated for non-life-threatening injuries after injuring himself. Unlawful discharge of firearm in city limits, disorderly conduct and resist and obstruct charges are pending.

“Police officers across our country are faced with critical incidents like this every day that do not end well. I am extremely proud of our officers who ran toward the sound of gunfire and were able to end the situation quickly and peacefully. Reverence for human life is a guiding principle when officers use force or otherwise deal with armed suspects. If you are having suicidal thoughts or are in mental crisis, please know that you are not alone. Our officers will help you and be there in your time of need,” said Rex Ingram, Caldwell Chief of Police.

If you or a loved one are in crisis, please call the Idaho Crisis and Suicide Hotline at 988. The hotline provides 24/7 free and confidential support.

All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.