



# Somerset Police Department

## Public Information Office

Lt. Allan Coomer • Det. Shannon Smith  
400 E. Mt. Vernon Street P. O. Box 1017 Somerset, KY 42502  
Phone (606) 678-5176 Fax (606) 678-9239



News Release  
SSNR12140801  
December 14, 2008

### **Peaceful End to Standoff at Hospital**

Somerset police officers received a 911 call early this morning reporting an armed subject threatening suicide inside the Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital.

Patrol officers were dispatched at 5:08 AM, and were on the scene within two minutes.

Upon their arrival, they learned the 44-year-old Somerset man had left the hospital building and got into a vehicle parked near the emergency room entrance. Witnesses reported hearing the man say he would, "shoot it out with the police."

The Somerset Police Department Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT) was activated and responded to the scene.

Officer Larry Patterson, a member of the HNT, negotiated with the man for about 15 minutes via cell phone. During the conversation, the man made several requests for the police to shoot him and end his life. He was taken into custody without incident at 6:14 AM.

There are no criminal charges being placed at this time. The man was being evaluated by mental health personnel to determine the need for further treatment. Therefore, the subject's name is being withheld.

"The Somerset Police Department invested in the Hostage Negotiation Team early on to resolve situations just like this morning's incident," said Major Doug Nelson. "They were trained to handle this type of task and we have them to thank for a peaceful ending."

All the HNT officers received advanced training earlier this year at the Institute of Police Technology and Management (IPTM) in Jacksonville, Florida.

Somerset PD units were assisted in the incident by the Pulaski County Sheriff's Department and the Science Hill Police Department.