



PRESS RELEASE

City of Pueblo Police Department

POWPO/Shooting Arrest



September 6, 2021 [FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE]



On September 4, 2021 at approximately 10:50 p.m., a Pueblo police officer was completing a call for service in the 800 block of E. Abriendo Avenue when he heard a single gunshot in the area. The officer then observed a vehicle stopped in the street in the 600 block of E. Evans Avenue. The officer followed the vehicle when it began to elude him, even though the officer hadn't activated his emergency lights or siren. The officer then heard radio traffic from the Pueblo Police Department Communications Center indicating that a person had just been shot at a residence in the 600 block of E. Evans Avenue, exactly where he observed the suspicious vehicle.

Officers began canvassing the area and located the vehicle at the intersection of Lake Avenue and Division Avenue. An officer moved in behind the vehicle and activated his emergency lights and siren in an attempt to conduct a traffic stop. The vehicle failed to yield and the officer pursued. After a brief pursuit, the officer successfully performed the Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) on the vehicle as it turned onto Columbia Drive from Surfwood Lane. The suspect, 47-year-old Joseph Martinez, was taken into custody without further incident. Officers observed in plain view inside the vehicle what they believed to be a "slam gun", which is a device capable of firing shotgun ammunition.

Officers conducted an investigation and learned the victim, an adult male, had been shot with bird shot in the chest and arm while seated on the front porch of the residence. He was transported to a local hospital and treated for his non-life-threatening injuries.

The suspect was arrested and booked into the Pueblo County Detention Center on several charges, including Attempted Second Degree Murder, Possession of a Dangerous Weapon, Violation of Restraining Order and Possession of a Weapon by a Previous Offender.

As of the drafting of this press release, it is unknown what led to the shooting.

The information contained in this press release is based on preliminary information available at the time of its drafting. The Pueblo Police Department's understanding of this incident may change as additional evidence is collected, analyzed and reviewed. The purpose of this press release is to provide timely information to the public. In consideration of the foregoing, please be advised that any statements expressed herein are subject to change at any time.

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