

Sheriff's Department searching for Sunday night shooter from Reid Road incident

Written by Marty Randall

Tuesday, 27 August 2013 12:25 -

A scary situation developed shortly after 8 p.m. on Sunday, August 25, on Reid Road.

As Reserve Deputy Daniel Dicken began checking out a car parked and apparently abandoned on a fairly isolated section of Reid Road, shots rang out from a fringe of nearby woods.

Dicken had received the call for service at 8:17 p.m. When he located the car, he turned on his spotlight and emergency lights to provide more illumination in which to work. The car, a green Pontiac Grand Prix, had no one inside it. The reserve deputy was trying to obtain the car's vehicle identification number when he said at least three gunshots were fired at him. Reserve Deputy Dicken related that he saw the fire from the gun's muzzle as the weapon was shot at him.

He managed to fire back once while seeking cover. He was not hurt during the exchange, and it is not known if the shooter was hit by Dicken's shot.

As word of the incident spread, multiple law enforcement agencies joined in the search for the unknown gunman. A concerted effort was made, even of the nearby stone quarry, about 30 feet away from the car, but no trace of the gunman has been found as of Monday afternoon, August 26. The search effort that night was on foot and by air. One resident reported seeing a person in his backyard, but a search by a K-9 unit was also unsuccessful.

The car was reported stolen by its female owner from Brown County. Its contents included garbage, some burned trash that had been bagged and small amounts of a few chemicals that are known to be used in the manufacturing of methamphetamine, advised Sheriff Dan McClain.

The vehicle was impounded, and an Indiana State Police technician has been processing it and its contents for clues as to the driver's identity. Sheriff McClain said he and Chief Deputy Don Campbell returned to the scene on Monday as the search continued. Metal detectors were employed in an effort to locate any weapons or bullet cartridges left there.

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“Currently, aside from the presence of the precursors, there does not seem to be a motive of any sort for someone to have shot at our officer if that person was safely hidden and unknown to the officer. Reserve Deputy Dicken was just doing his job,” said Sheriff McClain.

Anyone who may have seen the car or its occupant/occupants or have any information about the shooting incident and person or persons involved is urged to call the Sheriff's Department at 752-8400 or the 24-hour Tip Line at 752-7898.