

Local police agencies are still investigating days after a nearly 10 hour standoff in Sellersburg ended late Monday, June 24.

Detectives from the Indiana State Police and Sellersburg Police Department served a search warrant on the residence of standoff subject Joshua L. Priddy, 31, of Iowa Street in Sellersburg.

The search of the home was held on Wednesday afternoon, June 26.

“Detective Levesque and Indiana State Police Detectives served the search warrant yesterday afternoon (June 26). They were there for several hours. I don’t know exactly everything that they found but I do know additional weapons were taken from the house. They recovered additional weapons and ammo but I am not sure what other evidence was taken. They are at the Post as we speak documenting everything,” stated Sellersburg Police Chief Russ Whelan on Thursday morning, June 27.

The investigation is continuing after the standoff incident on Monday. The standoff began when Sellersburg Police received a 911 call from a woman asking for police intervention in talking her husband into “getting help.”

“We received a 911 call from his wife stating she would like us to come and try to convince her husband to get help. She said her husband had had a ‘mental break’ and wanted us to convince him to go get help,” Whelan stated. “When the wife had left the residence to call 911 she didn’t realize that he had left out the back door with the kids. He broke into one or two homes before we even made contact with him.”

Officers answered the call for help only to come face to face with the suspect.

“When talking to her on 911 he left the house when myself and Drew (LaMaster) made contact with him on Georgian. It went down hill fast after that. He initially pointed a gun at myself and Corporal LaMaster,” Whelan recalled.

A foot pursuit ensued where officers followed the suspect over an area of five streets in the Hill-n-Dale subdivision in Sellersburg.

According to Whelan, the 911 call originated from Iowa Street. Officers began the foot pursuit on Iowa over to Georgian down Denton and then south across back yards to Pennsylvania, across Pennsylvania and down Delaware.

“The suspect went into the residence at the dead end street at 712 East Delaware Street,” Whelan stated.

He continued, “My concern was that it was such a large area. We knew we had a guy with a gun that had already kicked in a couple of doors. Once he seen me he went around the house. My biggest concern was not to lose sight of him. My concern was for every resident in the Hill-n-Dale subdivision,” Whelan explained. “He even attempted to break into some homes right in front of me. My goal was to stay with him, follow him. Once he broke into the last house, we now had him contained. That is when I called all officers to that area because we knew where he was.”

Once police knew the suspect had barricaded himself in the residence another question that had to be answered quickly was if anyone was home at the time.

“We had to find out if anyone else was in that house. Once we verified that nobody else was home, we didn’t have to worry about a hostage situation, now it was just a barricaded situation. It was a bad situation but not as bad as a hostage situation,” Whelan explained.

Once the suspect barricaded himself in the residence on Delaware, the nearly 10 hour standoff

ensued. During the standoff the suspect allegedly shot and killed the Indiana State Police K-9 Kilo and shot and wounded Clark County Sheriff's Detective Chris Proctor, a member of the Clark County SWAT team.

Since the standoff on Monday, Chief Whelan has been receiving numerous phone calls from local citizens thanking him and the department.

"This isn't me. Yes, I did all the interviews but it isn't me. I have people calling me and thanking me, it wasn't me. This effort was from several, several agencies, Indiana State Police, Clark County Sheriff's Office, Charlestown, Jeff, ATF and Floyd County Sheriff Darrell Mills," a very humble Whelan added. "I also had officers contacting me on my phone, which I didn't have at the time. I had Clarksville PD send a text and say, 'Chief, what do you need.' This was an effort of all of the local agencies. Even Louisville Metro stepped up and blocked off all the roads and streets to get the SWAT officer to the hospital."

Whelan continued, "Yes, the call originated by SPD (Sellersburg Police Department) but was handled by all these agencies. I couldn't be happier for the way all the agencies worked together. It is just outstanding how everyone worked together and brought the situation to the conclusion that we did."

Whelan was grateful for the outpouring of help and support.

"We are a small department. We couldn't of done that situation and processed the scene without all the tools, equipment given by other agencies and the manpower. It was truly a team effort by all departments," Whelan said.

Priddy ended the nearly 10-hour standoff around 9:25 p.m. when he surrendered to officers. He was arrested and taken the Clark County Jail with no further incident. At press time, Priddy was charged with Attempted Murder of a Police Officer (Class A Felony), Causing the Death of a Law Enforcement Animal (Class D Felony), Burglary (Class B Felony), Residential Entry (Class D Felony), Pointing a Firearm (Class D Felony), and Criminal Recklessness with a Firearm (Class C Felony).

"I foresee more charges being filed. As to what those charges will be, I will not get into the particulars but the investigation is still very, very active," Whelan stated.

Chief Whelan concluded, "The Detective from here and Indiana State Police have not stopped since the conclusion of his surrender. That is when the real work started for the Detectives. They have worked around the clock. When it is all said and done and we get all the reports from several different agencies all for one case, I absolutely believe more charges will be filed against the individual."

The Indiana State Police lost a hero on Monday, June 24. K-9 Kilo was killed during the standoff. Kilo and his handler Trooper Nathan Abbott began their tour of duty with the Indiana State Police on January 5, 2007.

According to a press release issued by the ISP, "together they have spent the past six and one half years protecting all Hoosiers. Kilo will be missed by those who worked with him and those he protected."

A Memorial Fund has been set up in memory of K-9 Kilo. One hundred percent of all donations will be used to support the ISP K-9 program in memory of Kilo. All donations are tax exempt.

Donations may be sent to:

"Kilo Memorial Fund"
CFK/ISPA Foundation
1415 Shelby Street
Indianapolis, IN 46203

Please designate your donation is for the "Kilo Memorial Fund".

For more information regarding the Indiana State Police Kilo Memorial Fund please contact Wayne Flick at the Indiana State Police Alliance at 317-636-0929 or by e-mail at: wayneflick@indianasfinest.com.

Locally Cooper's Corner is collecting donations to be given to the Kilo Memorial Fund. If you would like to make a donation, please stop by the store located at 7302 Decker Lane near Highway 62 in Charlestown.

The Indiana State Police will honor Kilo's dedication to protecting the citizens of Southern Indiana with a Memorial Service scheduled for July 8.