



# NORTH LITTLE ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT Press Release



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## For Immediate Release

**\*\*\*UPDATE\*\*\***

### North Little Rock Police Release Names of Officers Involved in Sunday Morning Shooting

**North Little Rock, AR (July 1, 2022)** — The three North Little Rock Police officers who have been on paid Administrative Leave following the June 26<sup>th</sup> shooting are listed below.

- Officer James Edwards – Date of Hire: 02-06-2017
- Officer Nicholas Stewart – Date of Hire: 03-26-2018
- Officer Scott Harton – Date of Hire: 08-04-2008

Officer James Edwards has been serving with the North Little Rock Police Department since 2017. Officer Edwards is K-9 Rakkie’s handler. K-9 Rakkie was shot by Mr. Bates during the incident and suffered injuries to his leg. K-9 Rakkie was released from Double Tree Veterinary Clinic on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Rakkie will require additional treatments in the months to come and will be unable to return to duty. Rakkie will be retired in the near future and will remain with Officer Edwards.

Officer Nicholas Stewart has been serving with the North Little Rock Police Department since 2018 and has been a member of the Special Operations Unit for approximately 2 years. Officer Stewart was shot in the chest during the incident, however, suffered only minor injuries due to wearing his ballistics vest.

Officer Scott Harton has been serving with the North Little Rock Police Department since 2008 and has been a member of the Special Operations Unit for approximately 2 years.

This investigation is still currently active and on-going. Further information will be released when it becomes available.

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## Additional Information

**North Little Rock, AR (June 26, 2022)** — On June 25, 2022, at approximately 10:40p.m., Officers with the North Little Rock Police Department responded to the 3108 Donaghey Drive in reference to a domestic disturbance with a weapon.

Prior to arrival on scene, Officers were advised that the suspect was armed with a gun and had fired shots in the direction of at least one victim. Officers arrived on scene minutes later and made contact with individuals from the residence. Officers attempted to make contact with the suspect, who has been identified as 66 year old Arlen Jay Bates (B/M) of North Little Rock. Mr. Bates refused to exit the residence and speak with officers. Officers escorted the individuals they made contact with from the location for their safety and to gather further information.

Officers on scene established a perimeter around the residence and continued to attempt to make contact with Mr. Bates via phone and police vehicle PA system. These attempts to establish communication went unanswered.

Due to officers having learned that Mr. Bates was armed with at least one firearm, had committed felony offenses with that firearm, and had barricaded himself inside the residence, it was determined that Special Operations Team response was needed.

At approximately 1:30 a.m. members of the North Little Rock Police Department Special Operations Unit were notified and responded to the scene.

Upon their arrival, additional attempts to make contact with Mr. Bates were made via phone, text messages, and PA systems. Again, all attempts went unanswered. Special Operations units then conducted a breach to the residence and deployed a robot to search for Mr. Bates in hopes of creating a line a communication from inside the home. The attempt with the robot was unsuccessful in locating or establishing contact with Mr. Bates. At that time, attempts via phone, text message, and PA system were resumed.

A short time before 6:00a.m., North Little Rock Police K9 “Rakkie” arrived on scene and entry was made by members of the Special Operations Unit in the minutes following, with the purpose of locating Mr. Bates and affecting his arrest for 2 counts of Aggravated Assault on a Family or Household Member and Domestic Battery 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree.

During this search, Officers encountered Mr. Bates who was armed with a firearm. An exchange of gunfire occurred where a North Little Rock Police Officer, a North Little Rock Police K-9, and Mr. Bates were struck by gunfire. Members of the Special Operation Unit began providing medical aid to Mr. Bates, but life saving measures were ultimately unsuccessful.

The officer struck by gunfire was treated for minor injuries at the scene after being struck by gunfire which was absorbed by the ballistic vest covering the officer’s chest. North Little Rock Police K-9 Rakkie was struck in the front leg and was transported to an area animal hospital for treatment. K-9 Rakkie is expected to survive but will require further medical treatment for his injuries.

Detectives with the North Little Rock Police Department were notified of the incident and responded to the scene to initiate an investigation. That investigation is currently active and ongoing.

A total of three North Little Rock Officers are on paid Administrative Leave in accordance with North Little Rock Policy. The names of these officers are not being released at this time.

This is an active and ongoing investigation and further information will be released when it becomes available.

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## **Barricaded Subject Incident Ends in Shots Fired**

**North Little Rock, AR (June 26, 2022)** — On June 25, 2022, at approximately 10:40p.m., Officers with the North Little Rock Police Department responded to the 3100 block of Donaghey Drive in reference to a domestic disturbance with a weapon.

Upon arrival, officers were advised that the adult male suspect in the domestic disturbance was inside the residence and was armed with a firearm. Officers quickly removed the victim(s) from the scene and learned that the suspect was the only remaining person inside the residence. Officers set a perimeter around the residence and began attempting to make contact with the suspect.

Special Operations Units with the North Little Rock Police Department were activated and responded to the scene. For several hours, members of the North Little Rock Crisis Negotiation Team attempted to establish communication with the suspect via all available options. All attempts to establish communication were met with negative results. The decision was made for members of the Special Operations Unit (SWAT) to make entry into the residence to affect the arrest of the suspect for 2 counts of Aggravated Assault on a Family or Household Member and 1 count of Domestic Battery 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree. While inside the residence SWAT Officers encountered the armed suspect and an exchange of gunfire occurred. During the exchange the suspect was fatally wounded. One North Little Rock Police Officer and a North Little Rock K-9 were also struck by gunfire.

The Officer suffered non-life threatening injuries and the K-9 has been transported to an area animal hospital for treatment.

Detectives with the North Little Rock Police Department have been notified and are responding to the scene to conduct an investigation.

The Officer(s) involved in this incident has been placed on paid administrative leave in accordance with Departmental Policy.

The name of the suspect and officer(s) are not being released at this time.

This is an active and ongoing investigation and it is in the preliminary stages. Additional details surrounding this incident are still being gathered. Further information will be released when it becomes available.

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## **North Little Rock Police on Scene of Barricaded Subject**

**North Little Rock, AR (June 26, 2022)** — On June 25, 2022, at approximately 10:40p.m., Officers with the North Little Rock Police Department responded to the 3100 block of Donaghey Drive in reference to a domestic disturbance with a weapon.

Upon arrival, officers were advised that the suspect in the domestic disturbance was inside the residence and was armed with a firearm. Officers quickly removed the victim(s) from the scene and learned that the suspect was the only remaining person inside the residence. Officers set a perimeter around the residence and began attempting to make contact with the suspect.

Special Operations Units with the North Little Rock Police Department were activated and have responded to the scene.

The streets surrounding the location are currently closed and we are requesting that the area be avoided until conclusion of this incident.

This is an active scene and further information will be released when it becomes available.

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