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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Barricaded Subject

Somerton, AZ - On April 20, 2024, at approximately 9:48 p.m., the Somerton Police Department responded to a distress call in the vicinity of Patricia Street and Bingham Avenue. The call reported a male individual exhibiting erratic behavior, including attempting to jump out of a moving vehicle.

Upon arrival, Somerton Police Officers located the individual near County 17th Street and Somerton Avenue. The situation escalated as the individual, without provocation, advanced towards the officers, attempting to enter a police vehicle. Despite multiple verbal commands, the individual remained uncooperative, prompting an officer to deploy a Taser, an electronic control device, which unfortunately had no effect.

The individual fled to his residence in the 600 block of West 12th Place, where further attempts to subdue him with less lethal force; Tasers, chemical spray, and bean bag rounds, proved ineffective. During the confrontation, the individual forcibly gained access to a police vehicle and engaged in physical altercations with officers. He subsequently entered his residence, barricading himself, along with his wife and three children, inside.

The Cocopah Police Department assisted in securing the exterior of the house while waiting for assistance from the Special Response Teams of the Yuma County Sheriff's Office, and Yuma Police Department. Upon arrival of the Special Response Teams, the children and wife were safely removed from the house.

Despite negotiation attempts, the individual remained unyielding. Consequently, the Special Response Team executed a forced entry at 1:19 a.m., successfully apprehending the individual without further incident.

The Somerton Cocopah Fire Department and Special Response Medics assessed the condition of the children, wife, and the individual on-site. The individual was subsequently transported to Yuma Regional Medical Center for further evaluation and treatment.

The Somerton Police Department extends its heartfelt gratitude to all agencies involved in the resolution of this incident. As the investigation remains ongoing, anyone possessing relevant information is urged to contact the Somerton Police Department.