

Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

Press Release

(Title of Crime/Incident) **664-187 PC Attempted Murder, 459 PC burglary, 236 PC False imprisonment**

Report Number: 2015-3583

Coroner Number:

Crime/Incident: 664-187 PC Attempted Murder, 459 PC burglary, 236 PC False imprisonment

Location: 17000 block of Van Arsdale Road Potter Valley, Ca

When: Date: 02-10-2015 **Time:** 5:55 PM

Victim Info :

	Name	Age	Street Address	City, State
Victim #1:	Female adult	55		Potter Valley, Ca
Victim #2:	Male adult	56		Potter Valley, Ca

Suspect Info:

	Name	Age	Street Address	City, State
Suspect #1:	Eugene Peterson Jr.	32		Redwood Valley, Ca

Written by: Sergeant Rick Wagner

Synopsis:

On 02-10-2015 at 5:55 PM Mendocino County Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched to the 17000 block of Van Arsdale Road in Potter Valley, California in regards to a dangerous situation.

The Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center received a call from a male subject who advised when he came home he found a suspect holding his wife at gunpoint inside the couple's residence.

The husband advised the dispatcher he was going back to the residence and disconnected the phone.

Approximately fifteen minutes later the Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center received a call from the wife advising the suspect was being detained at the residence by the husband.

Deputies arrived minutes later and took the suspect, Eugene Peterson Jr., into custody without further incident.

Deputies learned the wife came home just after 5:00 PM and observed Peterson inside her residence.

When the wife arrived at the residence's door she didn't recognize Peterson and thought he was someone needing help since the residence was located in a rural area. The wife contacted Peterson as she entered the residence and he became somewhat confrontational.

The wife thought she might be able to talk with Peterson and get him to leave but the longer she talked to him the more aggressive he became.

The wife advised she had to feed her animals in an attempt to remove herself from the situation.

Peterson advised she could feed the animals but he was going to accompany her and showed her a handgun tucked inside his pants. After the feeding was completed, Peterson became demanding telling the victim to fix him food.

About this time, the wife's husband came home resulting in Peterson confronted the husband in the driveway of the residence telling him he had to leave while brandishing the handgun.

The husband told his wife to run but she did not as she was afraid what may happen if she ran away. The husband left the residence to get cellular service to call 911 and then returned to the residence.

When Peterson saw the husband return to the residence he again confronted him telling him that he had to leave.

During this time Peterson from several hundred feet away discharged several rounds from the handgun in the husband's direction.

While Peterson was shooting at the husband, the wife attempted to flee the residence but Peterson chased her and caught her inside the residence's carport.

Peterson began dragging the wife back into the residence which resulted in her struggling for control of the handgun. During the struggle, the husband tackled Peterson ultimately leading to him being disarmed.

Peterson was then physically restrained until Deputies arrived shortly thereafter and took him into custody.

Peterson was booked into the Mendocino County Jail on the listed charges where he was to be held in lieu of \$250,000.00 bail.

Approved By: Captain Greg Van Patten

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