

May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

PRESS RELEASE:

Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Steve Anderson

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Just after 9:00 AM yesterday (May 6, 2021), Jefferson County Sheriff's Deputies, Rigby Police Officers, and Jefferson Central Fire responded to the Rigby Middle School to a reported shooting. Multiple area Law Enforcement and First Responders also responded to the scene and schools were placed on lockdown.

Through investigation Deputies determined the suspect, a female 6<sup>th</sup> grade student, pulled a handgun from a backpack while inside the school, and began shooting. The suspect exited the building and continued firing but was quickly disarmed and detained by a teacher. During this time two students and an adult staff member of the school were injured by gunfire. This portion of the incident took place over the course of approximately 5 minutes.

Arriving Deputies took custody of the suspect and transported her to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, while personnel from Jefferson Central Fire and Idaho Falls Fire attended to victims who were ultimately transported to Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center (EIRMC). All three victims suffered gunshot injuries to the extremities and are expected to recover.

Law Enforcement and School District Personnel began to secure the scene and carefully clear students and staff from the area. Through this process, students at the Middle School were moved to nearby Rigby High School where District Personnel worked to account for all students and release them to parents.

After the scene was secured, investigators from multiple agencies assisted Jefferson County Sheriff's Deputies in processing the scene, gathering evidence, and interviewing witnesses. Bonneville County Sheriff's Deputies and Idaho Falls Police Officers served a search warrant at the residence of the suspect located in Idaho Falls and have since cleared from that location.

The investigation is continuing and will take a considerable amount of time as Detectives analyze evidence and witness information. The name of the suspect as well as names of victims and school staff involved in this incident are not being released at this time. Criminal charges on the suspect are pending at this time while the Jefferson County Prosecutor's Office reviews the information at hand.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office appreciates the vast amount of support from the community during this difficult time. We recognize this incident is traumatic for not only the victims, students and staff in the Jefferson School District, but also the community and surrounding area as well. The great working relationship between the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office and the school district that has already been in place has made it easy to mitigate and work through the complicated processes at hand. The support and understanding of our community also aides in this process and it has not gone unnoticed.

We would also like to express our appreciation to First Responders and organizations inside and surrounding Jefferson County who responded and have lent resources to help in the investigation and support as the process continues. Agencies and entities who responded and are assisting in this incident include:

Rigby Police Department

Jefferson Central Fire

Idaho Falls Fire

Idaho State Police

Madison County Sheriff's Office

Rexburg Police Department

Bonneville County Sheriff's Office

Idaho Falls Police Department

Bureau of Land Management/U.S. Forest Service Law Enforcement

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Again, we appreciate the support of the school district, community, and surrounding agencies helping with this investigation. We will notify media of any further updates that may come in the future, no further information is available at this time.

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