

Armored vehicle used in standoff

Deputies responded to a disturbance on Dec. 26 at 12320 Connelly Drive. When the deputies arrived, they encountered a man sitting on the porch of a trailer. When the officers approached the man, he went inside the trailer before returning with a shotgun and a rifle.

The Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office said in a release that the deputies "used a tremendous amount of restraint, fell back, called for back-up" and also called upon the sheriff department's SWAT unit.

The SWAT members arrived in an armored vehicle called a BearCat. The suspect, 50-year-old Freddie Shatswell, then fired several rounds at the vehicle. The vehicle's armor protected the men inside from the danger. Shatswell then fled and SWAT members secured the immediate area.

A female was with the male suspect and was able to escape to deputies. She was questioned and taken to a crisis center. The deputies claim the protection of the Bear-Cat enabled them to use restraint and not return fire at Shatswell.



The "Bear-Cat" protected deputies during a Dec. 26 standoff. Provided / The Sunday Sun

Over the next five hours, deputies tried to communicate with the man via loud speaker but were unable to. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol rendered assistance when a helicopter arrived at the scene.

Deputies then fired less-than-lethal gas into the trailer around 8:15 p.m. They then searched the residence but were unable to locate Shatswell inside. He was later found hiding underneath a pickup truck on the premises.

Shatswell told deputies he had a gun pointed at them, but they were unable to see one. Shatswell was then taken in to custody after a brief struggle.

The suspect is being booked into the Oklahoma County Detention Center and will face several charges currently being determined. Shatswell sustained some minor injuries during the struggle and no deputies were injured.