



Alamogordo Police Department

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NEWS RELEASE

November 16, 2020

On Thursday, October 29th, 2020, The Alamogordo Police Department's Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT) responded to two incidents regarding suicidal subjects with firearms. The MCRT, a newly formed unit within the Alamogordo Police Department, consists of a Mental Health Clinician and Crisis Intervention Team trained law enforcement officer. The MCRT can be dispatched to assist with behavioral health crises in the community.

In the late morning on Thursday, October 29th, 2020 the MCRT were requested to respond to a call regarding a suicidal female with a firearm. The Mental Health Clinician worked with family members of the subject to gain information prior to contacting the suicidal subject. The Clinician was able to contact the suicidal subject via phone and begin de-escalation with the subject. The MCRT approached the residence of the suicidal person and were able to continue verbal de-escalation with the subject. The subject was transported to Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center for further medical evaluation and treatment.

In the late afternoon, the MCRT responded to a suicidal male subject with a firearm. A friend of the suicidal subject reported to law enforcement that the subject was under the influence of illicit drugs and would become aggressive and assaultive if he saw law enforcement responding. The Mental Health Clinician worked with the friend to secure the firearm outside of the residence. The Clinician then coached the friend to work with the suicidal subject on coming outside of his residence. The suicidal subject agreed to talking with the Clinician and paramedics. Continued de-escalation resulted in the suicidal subject being transported to Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center for further medical evaluation and treatment. The MCRT provided support and response to the family and friends of the subject.

Both individuals received assistance without harm to themselves or law enforcement officers.