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Ravenel man arrested in domestic violence incident

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. – Charleston County deputies arrested a man Tuesday morning after a domestic violence incident that led to a SWAT team response in Ravenel.

The Charleston County Sheriff's Office responded about 1:20 a.m. to 5860 Highway 165. They met with a woman who reported that a former boyfriend had grabbed her neck and shoved her. The victim also reported to the deputies that the man had threatened to kill her, law enforcement and himself. The woman was not seriously injured and declined transportation to a hospital.

Deputies remained at the scene as CCSO's SWAT team and crisis negotiators responded. The man was believed to still be inside and armed with a firearm. The deputies made several attempts to contact the man without success.

About 7 a.m., the SWAT team entered the home and searched the property. A firearm was recovered, but the man was not found. It was determined that he had likely left before the arrival of initial units.

A short time later, CCSO received information that the suspect was in the nearby woods. CCSO's helicopter responded to participate in the search, but the man soon walked out of the woods and surrendered peacefully to deputies.

Carl Lee Welch, 52, was arrested and booked at the Al Cannon Detention Center on a charge of first-degree domestic violence.

Highway 165 near the scene had been closed for about two hours, and we appreciate the community's patience as deputies worked to peacefully resolve the situation.

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