

MEDIA RELEASE

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DATE: 04/29/2024

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79-Year-Old Gurnee Man Arrested for Domestic Battery

Gurnee -- On April 26, 2024, shortly before midnight, officers from the Gurnee Police Department responded to a report of a domestic disturbance in the 2400 block of Wembley Ct. The report indicated a concerning situation involving physical violence and the presence of weapons.

Initial information received suggested that a male inside the home had assaulted a female with a cane and was brandishing a knife. Despite commands from law enforcement to exit the residence, the situation escalated as the male subject, later identified as Robert E Derham, a 79-year-old of Gurnee, forcibly prevented the female victim, a 59-year-old of Gurnee, from leaving the residence.

Additional investigation from the officers on the scene revealed that the female victim had sustained injuries and was in urgent need of assistance.

Police strategies to de-escalate the situation were not successful. Officers forced entry into the residence to rescue the victim of Domestic Violence and to provide medical care. Upon entering, Derham was taken into custody.

While taking Derham into custody, a Gurnee Officer sustained a minor injury and received prompt medical attention. Both the female victim and Officer received the necessary medical treatment for their injuries. The victim did not want to be transported to the hospital.

As a result of the incident, Robert E Derham was charged with the following:

- Domestic Battery causing bodily harm
- Domestic Battery by making physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature
- Aggravated Assault
- Resisting a Peace Officer

A second individual, present at the scene but uninvolved in the incident, Henry Diaz, a 50-year-old male of Gurnee, was also arrested on a warrant.

The Gurnee Police Department emphasizes its commitment to quickly and effectively responding to incidents of domestic violence and ensuring the safety and well-being of all members of our community. We encourage individuals who may be experiencing or witnessing domestic violence to reach out to law enforcement or seek support from available resources. For additional information on available resources, please contact the Gurnee Police Department at 847-599-7000.

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