



CITY OF
**SOUTH
PORTLAND**
Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

Domestic Kidnapping at Pine Haven Motel

SOUTH PORTLAND, Maine – Today, at approximately 1:00 AM, South Portland police officers were dispatched to 857 Main Street, the Pine Haven Motel, for a male with a firearm refusing to allow a female occupant to leave. The Southern Maine Regional SWAT team and Crisis Negotiators were activated and took over command. After nearly four hours, Crisis Negotiators were able to convince the male to allow the female to exit the room. She did, and South Portland Police took her to a nearby hospital to be evaluated. Negotiators tried for another hour to convince the male to surrender peacefully. However, he refused. SWAT officers forcibly removed the male from the motel room. He suffered minor injuries, and South Portland Rescue transported him to a nearby hospital. Upon searching the motel room, South Portland Police Department detectives recovered a handgun.

Chief Ahern commends the professionalism of the South Portland officers who responded to this very dangerous call and the extraordinary efforts of the Crisis Negotiators and SWAT operators who collectively de-escalated a person in crisis presenting a serious threat to others.

Kristofer C. Wingate, age 40, will be charged as follows:

- Kidnapping Class B
- Creating a Police Standoff Class E
- Fugitive From Justice (Texas full extradition warrant)*

*Failure to appear, Deadly Conduct Firing a Weapon x2

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