



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 19, 2015

President Shelly sends condolences to family of fallen Navajo Police officer

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.—Earlier tonight, Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly received word that a Navajo Police officer was killed in the line of duty.

“We send our condolences to the family of the Navajo Police officer who gave his life in the line of duty tonight,” President Shelly said. “The family will be in our prayers.”

Reports of a shooting first came into President Shelly via phone, as he attended the N.M. House of Representatives session for the passage of Senate Joint Resolution 19.

John Billison, director of Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety, provided only basic details and said the case is under investigation.

The following details are limited.

Around 4 p.m., Navajo Police received reports of an armed man holding his family hostage with an AR-15 assault rifle. An officer responded to the domestic violence call and was fired upon by the suspect, who then fled the scene.

Other police officers responded to the manhunt from the Window Rock and Crownpoint police districts.

Around 10:30 p.m. tonight, we received word that the suspect was shot to death in Red Valley, Ariz.

The suspect shot two Navajo Police officers and one officer died at the scene. The other officer is at Shiprock Medical Center.

No names or further details available at this time.

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