



ASHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff B. Phil Howell

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For Immediate Release
June 26th, 2025

Peaceful Outcome of Barricaded Individual

Sheriff B. Phil Howell wants to reassure the public that a situation involving a distressed individual in the West Jefferson area was resolved safely and calmly yesterday morning. Twelve sheriff deputies arrived at the Wickzola Lane address to assist.

Around 8:58 a.m. on Wednesday, June 25th, 2025, Ashe County Sheriff's Deputies arrived to serve an Involuntary Commitment on a male subject. The man had locked himself inside a building and was threatening to harm himself. Deputies quickly called for support from Ashe Medics and worked together to ensure everyone's safety.

Through patient and professional communication, deputies were able to talk with the individual and encourage him to surrender peacefully. At 9:56 a.m., officers were en route to Ashe Memorial Hospital for evaluation.

We're thankful for the steady response from our deputies and first responders. Situations like this can be unpredictable, but everyone involved's calm and coordinated efforts helped ensure a safe outcome for all.

Due to privacy issues, no further details can be released.

