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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 04/30/19

Criminal Threats at Enloe Hospital Prompted a Lock Down

Chico, CA – On 4/29/19 at about 7:35pm, a Chico Police Officer arrived at Enloe Medical Center to finish a Mental Health evaluation. As he entered Enloe Medical Center frightened people informed him that there was a man running through the hospital saying he had a gun. Most patients/clients fled the emergency room when the male rushed in.

As information was updated to Officers, we learned the description of the male, that he was somewhere in the hospital and that he was carrying a duffel bag; this information prompted all available Officers to respond to Enloe Medical Center.

Enloe Security and Witnesses watched the male jump out a window and directed Officers on the perimeter to the male's location.

He was apprehended near the intersection of W. 6th Avenue and the Esplanade. The male was aggressive, resistant, and was verbally threatening Officers and staff. A whole body restraint system was deployed for his, and the Officers', safety.

Officers canvassed the area, but a firearm was never located. At the conclusion of this step of the investigation, Officers determined there was probable cause to establish the crime of Criminal Threats and the male was eventually transported to Butte County Jail for that charge. He was identified as 56-year-old Russell NIEWALD from Chico.

Location: Enloe Medical Center, 1531 Esplanade.

Date/Time: 4/29/19 1936 hours

Victim: --

Suspect: Russell NIEWALD (56)

Supervisor: Sgt. Omar Peña

Watch Commander: Cmdr. Mike Rodden

