

PRESS RELEASE

05 June 2009

**Ripley Police Department
110 S. Washington Street
Ripley, TN 38063
731-635-1515**

For immediate release

At about 9:30 PM on 04 June 2009 the Ripley Police Department responded to 202 Orange Street in Ripley, TN after receiving information that two subjects that were wanted in an aggravated robbery at Sonic on Saturday 30 May 2009 were at the residence. Officers arrived on the scene and observed Moses Williamson, 38 of 180 Parsley Way in Mason, TN, in the yard. Officers took Moses Williamson into custody. According to witnesses the remaining two (2) subjects fled into the Orange Street residence. Officers then located family members of the Orange Street residence and confirmed that the suspects were in the residence along with a 10 month old female infant.

Ripley Police Department officers and Lauderdale County Sheriff's Office deputies surrounded the residence. At about midnight one of the two subjects came out of the residence and was taken into custody. The subject was identified as Travis Williamson, 23, of 545 Brewer Road in Somerville, TN.

The Ripley Police Department requested assistance from the SWAT Teams from the Tipton County Sheriff's Office and the Shelby County Sheriff's Office. Also responding to assist at the scene were the Shelby County Sheriff's Office Hostage Negotiations Team, Bomb Squad and robot, K-9 Unit and the Communication Response Truck. Also assisting at the scene in the hostage situation was 25th Judicial District District Attorney Mike Dunavant, Tipton County Sheriff JT "Pancho" Chumley, Lauderdale County Sheriff Steve Sanders, Shelby County Sheriff's Inspector Mark Dunbar, Ripley Power and Light, Ripley Animal Control and Henning Police Department. Reverend Spicer of the New Beginnings Church located on Washington Street responded and opened his church for the displaced residents from the Orange Street neighborhood that were evacuated for their safety during the incident.

The stand off concluded at approximately 5:00 AM when the subject, who was communicating with the negotiators, via the robot, surrendered to SWAT team members. The subject was identified as Lacedra Irvin Seay, 24, of 80 Wilder Road in Somerville, TN.

The Lauderdale County Ambulance Service and Ripley Fire Department EMS, who was standing by at the scene, gave immediate care to the child. The child was

transported to Baptist Lauderdale Hospital by ambulance for medical evaluation. Although the child was held hostage there was no weapon recovered in the residence.

The three subjects are being held at the Lauderdale County Sheriff's Office jail and will be formally charged later today in the Lauderdale General Sessions Court.

According to Chief Landis Garrison of the Ripley Police Department "I was proud of the cooperation between all of the law enforcement agencies and support services that assisted in this incident. The combined efforts aided in the non violent resolution of this incident. This effort was the result of the continuous training of all aspects of a critical incident by the service agencies in each of these counties. I am thankful that this infant was not injured by the subjects or during the rescue operation."

Chief Landis Garrison
Ripley Police Department
chief@ripleypolice.com