



Active Shooter Call Determined To Be Swatting Effort *Thursday Incident Brings Coordinated Response from Local Agencies*

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO-August 18, 2023-Steamboat Springs Police Department (SSPD) and Routt County Sheriff's Office (RSCO) were dispatched to a report of an active shooter in the vicinity of The Ponds complex on the east side of Steamboat Springs yesterday, Thursday, August 17, 2023. The call was quickly determined to be a swatting call or hoax.

"Every call we respond to is taken seriously and a call such as this brings an elevated response from a variety of law enforcement agencies across our community," said Police Chief Mark Beckett. "This type of false reporting is occurring more frequently across the county and the Yampa Valley is not immune to these calls as we've seen this past year."

SSPD has implemented new tactics that allowed local agencies to approach the situation with a coordinated and integrated plan and quickly determine the seriousness of the reported incident. SSPD through this process was able to swiftly establish this call was likely a swatting incident. There is no threat to the community and the investigation is ongoing.

A swatting call is a criminal false report of a serious law enforcement threat such as an active shooter, bomb threat, hostage situation etc. This situation is taken very seriously by law enforcement and is a criminal act. The community is reminded if they see something, to always say something.

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Contact

Mark Beckett, Police Chief, 970.879.4344 or email

Rich Brown, Police Commander, 970.879.4344 or email

Michael Lane, Communications Manager, 970.871.8220 or email