

## **Press Release: Suicidal Subject Incident**

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16-M10745

Lieutenant Chris Cammock

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### **Update 6/25/2016 12:42pm**

At around 11:30am, our Crisis Negotiators were able to successfully talk the subject into coming down from the viaduct railing and go to Skagit Valley Hospital for treatment. Interstate 5 and surrounding roadways were immediately reopened.

We recognize closing major roadways is a tremendous inconvenience to those uninvolved with a situation like this. However, our first priority must be preservation of life and making every effort to prevent the irresponsible or unpredictable actions of one individual from seriously injuring those passing by. We're grateful to the patient motorists and conscientious media outlets that recognized this as well.

Lt. Chris Cammock

### **Original Release**

At around 5:30am this morning, Washington State Patrol responded to reports of a pedestrian walking in the lanes of I-5 near Downtown Mount Vernon. The individual was contacted and requested medical services. A medical crew responded and transported the individual to the hospital. When the ambulance arrived at the hospital, the subject ran from the vehicle.

At around 6:30am, Mount Vernon Police were called to the area of the viaduct which connects North 4<sup>th</sup> and South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street over I-5 to reports that a man was standing on the railing appearing as if was going to jump into the lanes of Interstate 5 below. Police contacted a 22-year-old man who was acting erratic, despondent and walking along the top of the guard rail. Officers closed the area to vehicle and pedestrian traffic so they could try to talk with the man.

Due to the risk posed to drivers travelling on north and southbound Interstate 5, both lanes are currently closed between Kincaid Street and the College Way exits. Vehicle traffic is being diverted through Downtown Mount Vernon.

Police negotiators trained to deal with crisis situations are currently trying to work with the man seeking a safe resolution to the situation. *Enjoyable Community Living*

We appreciate the patience from travelers who are impacted by road closures and the discretion the media has given towards this individual's privacy.

Lieutenant Chris Cammock