

Dog attacks police; owner is arrested

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A man was arrested Friday at his home after he allegedly sicced his dog on two police officers, both of whom were bitten.

Daniel Helverson, 30, of Mill Road, was charged with aggravated and simple assault, resisting arrest, recklessly endangering and disorderly conduct, police said.

Police Chief Larry Cerami said two officers responded at 2:45 p.m. Friday to a domestic disturbance at Helverson's home involving the suspect and his father, whose name was not available. When the officers entered the house to talk to Helverson, he unleashed his medium-sized Australian shepherd dog.

The dog was not given a command but lunged at the officers.

Meanwhile, police had called for backup and officers from other departments arrived.

The dog bit Richland Officer Thomas Murphy on his hand and Quakertown Officer Matthew Molchan on the back of the leg, the chief said. Helverson's father corralled the dog.

Police used pepper spray to subdue Helverson inside the house.

Cerami said both officers were taken to St. Luke's Quakertown Hospital for treatment. He said the dog was current on its shots, according to its veterinarian.

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