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Dog attacks Highland officer Patrolman fatally shoots animal when it fails to release its grip from his leg

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HIGHLAND | An officer was injured Tuesday when he was attacked by a dog while helping a landlord handle a problem with a tenant.

Patrolman Daniel Matusik answered a call at 3:13 p.m. from the landlord, who was preparing to evict the tenant. A police report said the landlord was instructed by a judge to inspect the residence at 2704 45th St.

The landlord asked for police assistance because the tenant had a dog there who was known to be violent.

When they arrived with Animal Warden Dave Hilburn, the tenant said her three-year-old male German shepherd was in the back with two teenage sons holding his collar. But when Matusik returned to the front yard, the dog had broken loose.

The tenant tried, but failed to stop the animal, police said.

The dog ran past everyone else and bit Matusik on the left thigh.

In the report he later filed, Matusik said the dog would not release its bite, at which time he fired two shots into the dog's body. The animal died moments later.

Matusik was taken to The Community Hospital in Munster for treatment as other officers determined if the dog was current on its shots.

Print Page

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