



San Diego County SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE INFORMATION SHEET

InformationType: News Release
Subject of Release: Assault with a Deadly Weapon
Other Information: Man on a school bus armed with a knife in Campo
Person Providing Information: Wm. Uelen, Sergeant
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Date of Release: 05-25-18
Time of Release: 11:30 AM

INFORMATION:

Date of Occurrence: 05/25/2018
Time of Occurrence: 08:31 AM
Location of Incident: 951 Jeb Stuart Road, Campo

SYNOPSIS:

On May 25th, 2018, at 08:31 AM, deputies received a call regarding a man armed with a knife, on a school bus at the apartment complex located near Jeb Stuart Road, in Campo. The school bus was occupied with students who attend the Campo Elementary School.

On this Friday morning, the students loaded onto the school bus as they would on any other school day. The bus driver closed the door and started to pull forward when he noticed a man running towards the bus. Believing the man was a father trying to stop the bus for a child running late, the bus driver stopped the bus and opened the door. The man entered the doorway of the bus and was immediately told by the bus driver that he could not come onto the bus. The man continued up the stairs of the bus, seemingly ignoring the bus driver's commands.

The bus driver attempted to stop the man from going back towards the children, as the man struggled to push by him. A grandmother of one of the students saw what was happening and got onto the bus to assist the bus driver. During the struggle, the man (now suspect) pulled out a knife. An older student on the bus, ushered the other children to safety towards the back of the bus and called out for help to some parents who were still nearby. The emergency door at the rear of the bus was opened and the children were able to get off the bus unharmed.

Another good samaritan entered the bus, and immediately heard the bus driver yelling that the suspect had a knife to his head. The good samaritan was able to pry the knife away from the suspect and pulled the suspect off the bus as deputies were arriving. Deputies handcuffed the suspect (later identified as 37 year old Matthew D. Barker of Campo), without



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further incident. Barker was arrested for felony charges of assault. There were no injuries to any of the people involved. Deputies believe that drugs were a factor in this incident; this investigation is on-going.

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