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Central Kitsap youth sustains gunshot injury

Silverdale, Wash. – A Central Kitsap teenager was airlifted to Mary Bridge Children’s Hospital (MBCH) in Tacoma, after being injured by a gunshot while inside a local residence. The victim, a 14 year-old male, sustained a single bullet wound injury to the abdomen.

Note: At the time of this release, MBCH reports the victim as being in critical condition.

The person responsible for the shooting is also a 14 year-old male juvenile, who lives in the home where the incident took place.

Sheriff’s detectives have initiated an investigation into the shooting. “We believe, at this point in the process, that the shooting appears to have been accidental,” said Detective Sgt. Eric Bockelie. “The investigation continues, however, and a final determination concerning the circumstances surrounding the shooting is still to be made.”

The incident occurred around 3:20 p.m. this afternoon in the second floor bedroom of a residence in the Woodcrest community of Central Kitsap, north of Silverdale. The initial call placed to CenCom (911 dispatch) reported that the shooting took place in a wooded area near the house and it was unknown from where the gunshot originated.

The first deputy to arrive was on-scene within six minutes, followed by a second deputy; both quickly determined that this initial report was false, and that the shooting occurred in the bedroom. First aid was administered to the victim prior to arrival of a Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue medic unit. Responding deputies reported that the victim displayed both entry and exit wounds, indicating that the bullet passed through the victim.

The victim was subsequently transported to the Kitsap Mall parking lot where an Airlift Northwest helicopter took over and flew the victim to MBCH Tacoma.

Detectives have recovered a 9mm semi-automatic handgun, the weapon involved in the shooting. The gun is reported to belong to the father of the young man who lives at the residence. Part of the investigation concerns how the gun came into the possession of one or both of the juveniles. No adults were present in the residence at the time of the incident.

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