



Thomas Corning
Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE: UPD CASE 26-0289

Date: 02/07/2026

Location: 800 Block North Oak St, Ukiah, Ca

Suspect: Clarence Wells, 37-year-old of Oakland, Ca

Victims: 75-year-old male of Ukiah, Ca
72-year-old female of Ukiah, Ca

Charges: 664/187 PC – Attempted murder (Felony)
245(a)(1) PC – Assault w/deadly weapon other than a firearm (Felony)
368(b)(1) PC – Injury likely to cause death to an elder/dependent adult (Felony)

On 02/07/2026, at approximately 7:29 pm, Ukiah Police Department Officers were dispatched to suspicious circumstances in the 800 block of N. Oak Street in Ukiah. UPD Dispatch advised the reporting party, later identified as Clarence Wells, stated he was unsure of what happened, but medical was needed and two subjects were not breathing. Wells also told UPD Dispatch there was a firearm in the residence but he was unsure where.

Officers arrived on scene and surrounded the residence. Due to the suspicious nature of this call officers attempted to order anybody in the residence outside utilizing their PA System. After a short time without any response officers moved in to see if they could contact the residents. An officer observed an elderly female victim inside with a significant head injury. Officers entered the residence and observed an additional elderly male victim, who also had major injuries to his head.

Wells was lying down on the floor inside the residence awaiting UPD arrival. Wells was detained without incident. Due to the severity of the victims' injuries medical was requested to transport them for treatment.

During the course of the investigation it was determined that Wells was a close family friend of the victims and considered to be family. Wells, was a resident of Oakland, Ca and staying with the victims temporarily.

At some point during the evening Wells became upset and assaulted the victims with a skateboard. Both of the victims were struck in the head multiple times.



Thomas Corning
Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE: UPD CASE 26-0289

Both victims were transported by ground ambulance and later transported by air out of county to be treated for their injuries. It is unknown at this time what their condition is, but both are suspected to be stable with possible facial fractures and lacerations.

UPD Detectives were contacted to respond and take over the investigation and process the crime scene. UPD Detectives attempted to speak with Wells, but were unable to determine what the motive for the attack was, or what kind of argument occurred prior. Wells was ultimately transported to the Mendocino County Jail to be booked on the above-mentioned charges.

The Ukiah Police Department would like to thank the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, Ukiah Valley Fire Authority, and Medstar for their assistance with this investigation.

As always, our mission at UPD is to make Ukiah as safe a place as possible. If you would like to know more about crime in your neighborhood, you can sign up for telephone, cell phone, and email notifications by clicking the Nixle button on our website; www.ukiahpolice.com

Prepared by: Sergeant Randall