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Press Release

On 06-08-17 at about 1038hrs Officers from the Centralia Police Department were conducting a follow up investigation of a theft complaint in the 300 block of S. Walnut, Centralia, IL. Officers had reason to believe that the suspect in this case was in possession of the object of this case, which was a stolen dog. During an initial interview with the suspect at her residence, Susan R. McGuire attempted to flee from officers and ran into her house in an effort to avoid arrest. Officers pursued McGuire into the house at which time she picked up a machete, raised it above her head and began advancing towards officers. Officers deployed a taser in an effort to subdue her, but it had little effect and she was able to run into a nearby bedroom. McGuire then led officers to believe she was in possession of a firearm, at which point officers took up a defense stance and set up a parameter around the residence.

The Centralia Police Department requested assistance from the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) Special Response Team. Members of the ILEAS SRT responded to Centralia from numerous agencies throughout southern Illinois and assumed the tactical operations of the incident. After attempts to get McGuire to exit the residence were exhausted, chemical munitions were deployed. When McGuire still refused to exit the residence, entry was made to the residence and McGuire was taken into custody without further incident.

Subsequent to McGuire being taken into custody, officers located the stolen dog unharmed in the residence, which was returned to its rightful owner.

Central City and Wamac Police also assisted on scene and with other calls for service during the incident.

During the incident, an arrest warrant for Aggravated Assault was obtained for McGuire, as well as a search warrant for the residence. During a search of the residence a machete and a pellet pistol and pellet rifle were taken as evidence.

McGuire was unable to post bond and was taken to Marion County Jail.

The ILEAS SRT is an excellent example of a cooperative effort between law enforcement agencies that allow police departments throughout southern Illinois the luxury of have a fully trained Special Response Team at their disposal. The expertise and lifesaving tactics

[Type here] deployed by the ILEAS SRT proved to be a valuable asset during the event, and allowed the incident to be successfully diffused without injury or loss of life to anyone involved. Brian Atchison Chief of Police