

Stanislaus County **SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

Sheriff Adam Christianson
250 E. Hackett Road, Modesto, CA 95358



MEDIA RELATIONS



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE June 15, 2008
TIME 4:00 AM

Suspect Killed as Sheriff's Helicopter Makes an Emergency Landing in an Attempt to Save a Baby

Stanislaus County, CA- An officer shot and killed a suspect who was assaulting a baby in the middle of the road late Friday night. At 10:13 PM the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department received a 911 call from witness reporting a man assaulting a baby on Bradbury Road near Blaker Road in a rural area of Stanislaus County.

Several Sheriff's Deputies and Officers from the California Highway Patrol responded to the area. The Sheriff's Department Helicopter (Air 101) was flying in the Turlock area and responded to the call. Air 101 was the first unit on scene in about 6 minutes and spotted the suspect assaulting the baby as witnesses attempted to stop him. Because patrol deputies were several minutes away, the flight crew of the Air 101 a Deputy Sheriff who was the pilot and a Modesto Police Officer as the Tactical Flight Officer, made the decision to land the helicopter and try to stop the suspect from continuing his assault on the baby. The pilot landed the helicopter in a cow pasture next to the road where the suspect was parked. The Tactical Flight Officer exited the helicopter and ran towards the suspect giving him commands to stop the assault. The suspect continued his assault on the baby. In an attempt to save the baby's life, the Tactical Flight Officer shot the suspect resulting in the suspect's death.

As other officers arrived, the scene was made safe to allow paramedics and the fire department to start first aid. The baby was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead. The suspect was pronounced dead at the scene. Names of suspect and victim are not being released pending notification of family.

Investigators from the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department, Modesto Police Department, and the Stanislaus County District Attorneys Office are investigating this case.

Anyone with information about this case is encouraged to contact the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department at (209) 525-7114. Callers can also leave an anonymous tip by calling Crime Stoppers at (209) 521-4636 and be eligible for a cash reward.

For information regarding this press release please contact Deputy Royjindar Singh (209) 652-6597.