



Houston Police Department Police Officer Michael Pulido

On August 13, 2021, at approximately 0011 hours, Eastside Patrol officers were dispatched to an 'Assault in Progress/Weapon Unknown' call at an apartment complex at 7227 Woodridge Dr. Officers would soon learn that an extremely violent suspect, with a reported history of PTSD and anxiety, had just assaulted his ex-girlfriend, grabbed a knife and tried to stab her and a neighbor. The suspect then grabbed their one-year-old baby and held a knife to the baby's throat in front of his ex-girlfriend (the baby's mother).

When officers made the scene, they found the suspect in the apartment complex parking lot holding a knife and the baby. Eastside officers immediately ordered the suspect to drop the knife and release the baby but the suspect only increased defiance and exhibited increased rage. The suspect reportedly placed his knife to the baby's throat on at least two occasions as the situation devolved into a standoff with the baby's life in imminent danger.

Several of the Eastside officers made repeated attempts to negotiate for the toddler's release, but the suspect only rebuked their efforts and kept officers at a distance. The suspect positioned himself against a wall in an open area and sat down. Approximately 20 minutes passed without any progress, so the Eastside patrol officers requested a Crisis Intervention Response Team to assist.

Officer Michael Pulido (66M36) responded and gathered preliminary intelligence on the suspect and situation. Officer Pulido took over the active negotiation about 45 minutes after the standoff began. Officer Pulido immediately redirected the focus on-scene to a need expressed by the suspect for medication. Officer Pulido did this in a calm voice while using only first names. The suspect immediately responded to this tactic and asked Officer Pulido to come closer. Officer Pulido moved closer while continuing to redirect in a calm voice. The suspect responded to this approach by fully complying with Officer Pulido's requests, and the standoff was ended. The suspect threw the knife away and gave his baby directly to Officer Pulido without further incident. The baby was cleared by HFD and returned to his mother unharmed. The suspect was safely removed from the scene.