



S KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF

SHERIFF ROCKY WATSON
UNDERSHERIFF TRAVIS CHANEY

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KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MEDIA RELEASE NOVEMBER 6, 2011

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Office reports that after a lengthy standoff a fugitive has been taken into custody near Post Falls, ID.

Deputies responded to 317 S. Ross Point Road about 5:30 a.m. this morning to a reported unwanted person that was actually a verbal dispute between a mother and her adult son. When deputies arrived, they found Matthew Couture, 44, had barricaded himself in the basement of the home and armed himself with a large butcher knife, threatening to kill himself. Deputies subsequently learned that Couture is wanted in the State of California on a felony probation violation warrant.

The Sheriff's SWAT and Negotiation teams were activated and picked up the dialogue with Couture that the first responding deputies had begun. Finally after more than six hours of negotiation, Couture gave up to SWAT team members and was taken into custody without further incident. No one was injured during the ordeal.

Couture has a criminal history that includes arrests for domestic batteries and aggravated assault. He was booked into the Kootenai County jail pending extradition proceedings.

Rocky Watson, Sheriff

By: Major Ben Wolfinger

