

NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release

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UPDATE - Critical Incident Officer Involved Shooting—Casper, Wyoming

Casper, Wyoming (May 7, 2025) - The Casper Police Department is releasing an update to an earlier news release to provide accurate and verified information concerning a critical incident that occurred in the early morning hours of April 28, 2025, in the 1600 block of South McKinley Street in Casper. Due to the ongoing third-party investigation being conducted by the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation, limited details can be released at this time.

In any serious incident, especially those involving the use of force, facts must be thoroughly verified before they are released. This process protects the integrity of the investigation, ensures due process for all involved, and most importantly, upholds the truth. Rushing to release incomplete or unverified information can compromise the investigation, mislead the community, and unintentionally harm those involved. Our goal is to keep the community informed without jeopardizing the outcome of the investigative process. Recent media coverage has led to confusion, the dissemination of inaccurate or incomplete information, and social media speculation. Factual information will be released by the investigating agency when it becomes available.

These are the facts of the incident that are currently available.

On Monday, April 28th at 12:01 am, a call to the Public Safety Communications Center stated that there was a residential burglary in progress at the 1600 block of South McKinley Street. A female caller, identified as 37-year-old Jody Cobia of Casper, told dispatchers there was a burglar dressed in all black and armed and dangerous, actively breaking into the residence. Cobia went on to say the burglar was inside the back room of the residence, urging officers to come inside and to hurry up. Dispatchers attempted to gather more information, Cobia disconnected the call.

Several Casper Police Officers in uniform and marked units responded emergently to the residence and worked to begin establishing a perimeter on the property. Before officers could make contact, Jody Cobia, dressed in dark clothing, abruptly opened the front door. Officers were immediately encountered by a large dog and Cobia with a firearm at her side. Cobia began shouting and then pointed the firearm at officers. In response to being threatened with a firearm, officers discharged their weapons striking Cobia. Officers thoroughly and systematically cleared the residence in an attempt to identify any other individuals or threat. There were no signs of forced entry. Officers did not locate anyone else inside and no known individuals fled the property from the established law enforcement perimeter. There were no

juveniles present at the time of this incident. Officers provided medical aid to Cobia, who was transported to Wyoming Medical Center and later pronounced deceased.

Although this call came in as a burglary, at this point in the investigation, there is no evidence of a burglar and it appears as if Jody Cobia made the call to elicit a police response.

The Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) was immediately notified to conduct an impartial investigation of the totality of the incident. The Natrona County Coroner's Office has notified the next of kin and is conducting a separate death investigation. The 1600 block of South McKinley Street remained closed to traffic until the late morning hours of April 28th.

Pursuant to the established policies of the Casper Police Department, three involved officers remain on administrative leave pending a full investigation.

"We understand this incident has deeply impacted our community and those directly involved, and that waiting for answers can be difficult," said Casper Police Chief Shane Chaney. "We are committed to sharing information as soon as this process allows, and we thank our community for their patience and understanding."

The determination concerning the justification of the discharge of weapons is the decision of the Natrona County District Attorney's Office following the conclusion of the investigation by DCI. The Casper Police Department remains steadfast in our efforts to maintain transparency and public confidence concerning the actions of our officers. In line with these values, additional information and a Critical Incident Briefing Video will be released when it is available.

The Casper Police Department is dedicated to the protection and safety of [ourcommunity](#) through the highest standards of professionalism in police services.