



PRESS BRIEFING

Good afternoon. My name is Brad Johnson and I am the Acting Chief of the Fairbanks Police Department. This is a briefing on the shooting of Sergeant Allen Brandt that occurred early yesterday morning. At this time we will not be taking questions either during or following the briefing, as I am providing you all of the information we are able to release at this time.

Let me start by saying that the Fairbanks Police Department, on behalf of Sergeant Brandt and his family, would like to thank our community and fellow citizens for their tremendous outpouring of support and assistance during this difficult time, along with the huge number of tips and other information that continues to come in. As always, the Golden Heart city has again shown the incredible generosity and caring for one of its own in the manner that Fairbanks has come to be known.

I would also like to thank the numerous local, state and federal law enforcement agencies across Alaska for their support and resources, and especially to the Alaska State Troopers and the Anchorage Police Department for their ongoing investigative assistance and support to Sergeant Brandt and his family in Anchorage.

Shortly after midnight, the Fairbanks Police Department received reports of shots fired and a man screaming in the area of the 300 block of 7th Avenue. Sgt. Brandt and other officers responded to the area. Shortly after the original call was received, Sgt. Brandt radioed that he was shot.

Sgt. Brandt was heading east on 7th Avenue when he came upon the suspect. Sgt. Brandt was shot four times in the lower part of his body and once in the chest. During the attack, Sgt. Brandt was able to exit the vehicle and return fire. It is unknown whether or not the suspect was struck. After shooting Sgt. Brandt, the suspect fled the scene in Sgt. Brandt's patrol car. The suspect abandoned the car at the corner of Clay Street and 8th Avenue.

After the attack, Sgt. Brandt was able to move himself to a better location while using his radio to direct responding officers to his location just off the roadway. Arriving officers immediately began administering first aid until the Fairbanks Fire Department arrived. He was transported to Fairbanks Memorial Hospital for treatment of multiple gunshot wounds. He was then flown to Anchorage for treatment.

Sgt. Brandt was wearing body armor which protected his chest area. He sustained injuries to his legs and shrapnel in his left eye. He is in awake, alert and in stable condition.

The suspect has been described as an Alaska Native male and is still at large. He should be considered armed and dangerous.

I would like to stress that we have no evidence to suggest that race or ethnicity played a role in this attack on Sergeant Brandt. We are working to identify a criminal who perpetrated a cowardly act. We are doing so irrespective of his race or ethnicity, but for the act he committed. Clearly this attack occurring just as we welcome thousands of delegates and family members to the Alaska Federation of Natives and the Elders and Youth Conferences places everyone on edge, and I want to assure all of you and the Fairbanks community that we continue to do our best to provide a safe and welcoming environment to our guests and ensure they have a productive and enjoyable conference.

As mentioned earlier, we are receiving dozens of tips and rely on the community's assistance to help us solve this crime. We have established a tip line, answered by a police department employee, on a 24 hour basis at 450-6551 or you can email your tip to fpdtips@fairbanks.us If you have any information that you feel might contribute to this investigation, please call anytime day or night and let us know. With your help, we will find Sergeant Brandt's attacker and bring him to justice.

This is obviously an ongoing investigation and we will provide additional information as it develops. Since we do not know when that might be, we are not now scheduling future briefings but will do so when there is information to be released.

The Fairbanks Police Department Employees Association has set up a fund at youcaring.com if you want to donate: <https://www.youcaring.com/allen-brandt-and-family-673330>

Thank you for coming and join us in wishing Sgt. Brandt a swift recovery.

Contact: PIO Yumi McCulloch, 907-388-0909 ymcculloch@fairbanks.us

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