DATE:     February 23, 2017
INCIDENT:  Murder/Suicide
VICTIM:    VANESSA D REESE
CASE #:    17-0560

On Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at approximately 6:24 p.m., the Fairbanks Police were contacted by the UAF Police Department requesting a Welfare Check for VANESSA D REESE (DOB 3/5/1992), because her children were not picked up from the UAF campus childcare facility.

REESE’s co-worker also came to the station to report that she left work at lunchtime and did not return. The co-worker stated REESE’s estranged boyfriend, THIEN TRAN (DOB 2/7/1991), was in her office shortly before she left but did not see her leave with him. The co-worker reported that REESE had recently been accepted to an out-of-state nursing program and was going to tell TRAN that she was leaving Alaska to attend.

FPD officers determined that REESE and TRAN had a Domestic Violence history and due to the exigent circumstance, the FPD Tactical Police Team was called out while officers continued attempting to contact REESE at various locations.

The FPD Tactical Police Team arrived at TRAN’s residence located at 1205 McCarty. Upon entry, both REESE and TRAN were found deceased from gunshot wounds. The preliminary investigation indicates that TRAN shot REESE then killed himself. Next of kin have been notified.

The two young children were picked up from the childcare facility and are with a family friend.

Anyone with further information regarding this incident should contact Detective Alana Malloy at amalloy@fairbanks.us or 907-450-6557.

The Fairbanks Police Department would like to thank the Fairbanks Dispatch Center, UAF Police Department, and the witnesses to this event for their help in this incident.

If you know of anyone in a domestic violence situation, please encourage them to contact the Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living at 452-2293 or 1-800-478-7273.

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

###