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Chadrad Communications, Inc.
226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601
E-mail: kcsr@chadrad.com

(Neb)-Chadron Hospital Goes Into Lockdown After

By: John Axtell Posted at: 03/25/2020 08:51 PM

CHADRON - Chadron Community Hospital and the Chadron Medical Clinic - which share the same building - were placed on lockdown for most of an hour Wednesday afternoon following a phone warning of an angry armed man heading toward the hospital. The incident ended peaceful with no charges.

Chadron Police Chief Tim Lordino says his department received a call about 1:50 pm that a man who reportedly was armed and upset over a billing issue was enroute to the the hospital. Officers responded to the hospital, which followed its protocols and went on lockdown.

Chief Lordino says officers made contact with the man, who was indeed armed, around 2:30 about a block away from the hospital. He was taken without incident for further questioning to the police station, where he was described as cooperative, then was released about 4 PM.

Lordino characterizes the incident as "an over-reaction" on the part of the person who made the original call. Despite that, he thanks the hospital for its cooperation, quick response, and adherence to its lockdown protocols.

Lordino also offers thanks to the Dawes County Sheriff's Office, Nebraska State Patrol, and Nebraska Game and Parks law enforcement division for their response during the incident.

The chief says his dispatchers and the men and women in the local area law enforcement agencies all "did an excellent job, just as they are trained to do on incidents like this."

Hospital Public Relations and Marketing Coordinator Lea Griese says Chadron Community appreciates the collaborative relationship and response of its law enforcement partners.