

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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ABC Redding Investigator Luke Blehm Receives Award for Courageous Act

Redding - On Wednesday, February 9, 2011, before a packed Redding City Council Chambers, ABC investigator Luke Blehm was honored by the Redding Police Department for a brave and courageous act last May when a man threatened his own life and put police officers in danger.

ABC investigator Luke Blehm received a Merit Award from the Redding Police Department for action that he took to save a suspects life.

Investigator Blehm was a city of Redding police officer at the time (May, 2010) when he tried to talk a suspect out of committing suicide. The suspect had two guns pointed at his chin and told the officers he was going to kill himself. Officer Blehm took swift action when the suspect moved rapidly in a manner that put the officer's life in jeopardy. Officer Blehm fired non-lethal bean bags/pellets at the suspect and removed the weapons from the suspect.

Redding Police Chief Peter Hansen said during the awards ceremony. "On May 18, 2010, Officer Blehm, Sergeant Barner, Officer Kinneavy, and Officer Solada contacted a man who was armed with two handguns, threatening to commit suicide. Officer Blehm used excellent tactics and restraint to safely take the man into custody before he could harm himself or any of the officers. For his outstanding performance under complicated and hazardous conditions, Officer Blehm is awarded the Merit Award."

ABC is a Department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency.

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