

Police Respond to Shooting at Dollar General on Union Road

By **Jim Herr** - November 14, 2017



Cheektowaga Police respond to a shooting outside the Union Road Dollar General near French Road on November 14th. (Jim Herr/Cheektowaga Chronicle)

CHEEKTOWAGA – Cheektowaga Police responded to an active shooter near the Dollar General on Union Road near French Road just before 3:00 pm Tuesday.

Union Road shut down a short time later between French Road and the West Seneca town line because an explosives K9 from the NFTA got a read on something in a car in the parking lot. Cheektowaga Police say the road is shut down “out of an abundance of caution”. The Erie County Sheriff’s Bomb Squad was called to the scene to help check out the area. The road was reopened around 5:15 pm and a lockdown of the area businesses was lifted.

As of 3:00 pm it appears one man was shot in the shoulder area. He was taken to ECMC for treatment.

The store was cleared, and it appears no one inside the store was shot. At the scene, the glass doors to the store appear to be shot out.

The suspect is in custody. Two long guns were recovered from the scene, and the suspect was wearing body armor at the time. It also appears the suspect was shot as well. Police say “we believe everyone is in custody who needs to be in custody”.

An assault rifle can be seen in the parking lot next to a car. The car is blocked off by crime tape.

Asst. Chief James Speyer says detectives are in the very preliminary stages of the investigation. “We’re not exactly sure what led to that, however, we believe there was some kind of altercation,” Speyer said. “We are investigating this as much as we can, putting video together.



*Shooting at Dollar General. (11/14/17)
(Jim Herr/Cheektowaga Chronicle)*

There is some video we have, there is other evidence we are looking at. Not sure of the quality of it.”

“At the time we treated it as an active shooter, we believed at the time that it was very likely to be. Fortunately, there wasn’t more damage or injuries to anybody at that scene.”

A witness named Ron who was at a traffic light right next to the scene tells the Chronicle he saw the entire incident. “He was running frantically back and forth between the Dollar General door and his car... he was actively shooting, for sure.”

Ron says he saw the suspect running when he was tackled by a police officer. “About five minutes later he got tackled right in front of us.”

Asst. Chief Speyer also said the homes and apartments in the surrounding area should be safe.

Police will have an update with information at 6:00 pm at police headquarters.



Map of area where the shooting took place. (11/14/17) Courtesy: Google Maps

