



# St. Petersburg Police Department News Release



**Media Relations Office**  
**Bill Proffitt**  
**Mike Puetz**

**Voice 727-893-7550**  
**Fax 727-893-7773**  
**Media Line 727-893-7878**

## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Barricaded Suspect**

Incident: Commercial Burglary  
Location: 2325 34 Street South (His and Hers Clothing)  
Date: March 30, 2009  
Time: 3:45 a.m.  
Offense #: 2009-021742

Arrested: Andrew C. Exposito, W/M, DOB 03/07/1990 of 601 74 Street North

At approximately 6:30 p.m. officers responded to 601 74 Street North in reference to a Check on Welfare complaint received from the mother of the above listed arrested suspect.

She advised that in speaking with her ex-husband over the phone he told her that their son, Andrew Exposito, was acting mentally imbalanced and talking of suicide. The ex-husband, Adivan Exposito told her that Andrew had cut his arms and had manufactured 3 Molotov cocktail which he was threatening to use to kill himself.

After officers arrived on the scene they were met outside by the father who related the information to them and who also overheard Exposito make threats to use the Molotov cocktails against them if they attempted to enter the house.

A perimeter was established around the house and hostage negotiators were able to establish contact with Exposito who continued to reiterate his threats.

It was also learned that the house was occupied by an elderly female tenant and her adult son. It appears that neither one of them were threaten or being held as hostages by Exposito. The elder woman son, Gary (last name unknown at this time) did eventually exit the house unharmed.

Member of the Department's TAC Team were deployed and negotiations with Esposito continued on through the night. Eventually at about 2:00 a.m. Esposito came outside and surrendered to police after his mother arrived from Charlotte County and helped convince him to give himself up.

The elderly resident (name unknown at this time) of the home was found inside the house unharmed. Investigators did find three Molotov cocktails inside the home as well.

Esposito will be charged with the manufacture of a destructive device as well a felony domestic battery in an unrelated case of an assault by strangulation of his girlfriend on an earlier date.

I will have the opportunity later today to update anyone interested in additional details, especially pertaining to the names of the suspect mother, elderly resident and her son.

Information released by Mike Puetz  
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