



# HARRISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

TROY J. PETERSON  
*SHERIFF*

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**\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\***  
**For Immediate Release**

On Monday July 1, 2019, Sheriff Troy Peterson announced a Hostage situation and an armed standoff took place in the 28400 Block of J.P. Ladner Rd. Pass Christian, MS. After nearly 7 hours of negotiations, the suspect identified as 53 year Old Hiram Kevin Smith surrendered to authorizes.

According to Sheriff Troy Peterson, at approximately 8:30 am the Harrison County Sheriff's Office responded to the residence after receiving 911 calls advising Hiram Smith forced his way into his estranged wife's home with a firearm. Upon deputies arrival, communication with Smith began. After approximately 1 hour after beginning dialogue with Smith, Smith's estranged wife was able to safely exit the residence. Smith refused to exit the residence and made numerous suicidal threats. Sheriff Peterson authorized the mobilization of the Harrison County and Gulfport Police Department SWAT Teams who responded to the scene. Negotiators with both agencies continued working with Smith to establish a safe ending to the event. At approximately 3:15 pm, Smith exited the residence unarmed and was safely detained. Smith was then evaluated by AMR and then transported to a local hospital for further evaluation.

The Harrison County Sheriff's Office has obtained felony warrants for Smith's arrest. Sheriff Peterson advised that upon Smith's release from the hospital, Smith will be taken into custody and formally charged.

Investigative Officer: Inv. William Wescovich \_\_\_\_\_

Approved For Release: \_\_\_\_\_  
Troy J. Peterson, Sheriff, Harrison County, Mississippi