

JOPLIN

POLICE

303E. 3rd Street * Joplin, MO 64801-2274 * 417-623-3131 * Fax 417-624-9820

Jason Burns
Chief of Police

Date: January 19, 2015
Origin: Department PIO
Contact: Captain Bob Higginbotham
Phone: 623-3131 #643

NEWS RELEASE

January 19, 2015 at 0952, Joplin Police responded to 2109 Tyler Ave. in reference to a domestic assault with a weapon. Todd Wheeler encountered his estranged wife, Stephanie Wheeler at that residence and physically attacked her. Stephanie's brother-in-law, Jeremiah Bitticks confronted Todd in defense of Stephanie. Todd displayed a knife and threatened both Stephanie and Jeremiah with the knife.

Neither party was injured or required medical attention.

Todd fled the scene and was located by Seneca Police Department. A pursuit ensued and was participated in by Seneca Police Department, Newton County Sheriff and the Mo. Highway Patrol.

Through this interagency cooperation, Todd W. Wheeler, 36, 1706 Olive, Seneca, was apprehended. Todd is being held on two counts of 2nd Degree Domestic Assault pending formal charges.

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Todd W. Wheeler