For Immediate Release
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UPDATE: Officer in Stable Condition After Being Shot During Animal Complaint Call

HARRISONBURG, VA – The officer that was shot during the animal complaint call for service continues to convalesce at UVA Medical Center in Charlottesville, Va. He is reportedly in stable condition, alert, and in good spirits. During the encounter, the officer was shot once, his injuries are described a wound to the lower body.

On March 20, 2021 at approximately 10:20 p.m., officers with the Harrisonburg Police Department responded to an animal complaint near Edom Rd. and Virginia Ave. A cow had gotten loose from a stockyard earlier in the day and was running at-large in the northern end of the city.

A short time later the cow was reported in the 900 block of N. Main St. near the 7-Eleven Store. During an attempt by local ranchers to capture the animal, it became injured, and officers were forced to intervene. One Harrisonburg Police officer was injured by gunfire in the encounter when the cow reportedly charged at the officers. The injured officer was taken to Sentara RMH and later transferred to UVA Medical Center for treatment of a non-life-threatening injury.

There were no other reports of injuries. The investigation is being conducted by HPD's Major Crimes Unit and is ongoing.

Anyone who witnessed the incident or has other information is encouraged to contact HPD's Major Crimes Unit at (540) 437-2640. To remain anonymous contact Crime Solvers at (540) 574-5050 or text "HPD" plus their tip to CRIMES (274637).

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