

An armed man had both law enforcement and fire and rescue workers out in droves last night in Boone.

Officers responded to a 911 call of a possible suicidal man with a gun at an apartment complex on Long Street. Officers found the unidentified 48-year-old male brandishing a semi-automatic handgun outside the complex. Attempts to communicate with the man were not effective, officers say. The man retreated to an upstairs apartment. In the meantime, deputies, with the help of the Boone Police Department and Boone Fire Department, secured the area. The apartment complex was evacuated and traffic was stopped on the 105 Bypass. The man in the apartment retrieved a shotgun and stepped back onto the porch, reportedly firing the weapon in the air. Officers were able to convince the man to put the gun down, and as dialog deteriorated, officers were able to take him into custody. One report suggests a Taser was used to apprehend the man. He has been transported to Watauga Medical Center for evaluation. No one was hurt in the incident.