

# MAIDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## PRESS RELEASE

December 28th, 2019

Reference: Suicidal Subject Startown Road Bridge

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### **Maiden Police Officer Restrains Suicidal Subject Attempting to Jump from Bridge.**

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On Friday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 5:30 pm, Maiden Police officers were dispatched to the US Highway 321 overpass bridge on Startown Road in Maiden in response to 911 calls about a male subject on the bridge railing threatening suicide.

Upon arrival, officers found a clearly distressed adult white male standing up on the Startown Road bridge railing over the northbound lanes of US Highway 321. The man had already slashed his wrist with a knife, was bleeding profusely, and was making verbal statements about his intention to imminently commit suicide by jumping from the bridge down into traffic.

Maiden Police Sergeant Joe Painter was one of the first officers on scene and was able to close in as the suicidal subject turned his head to address others. Sgt. Painter was able to grasp the man's shirt collar and the waist of his pants and remove him from the railing to safety. The man strongly resisted Sgt. Painter and other officers who immediately moved in to secure him from further harm.

The forty-seven-year-old man was taken into emergency protective custody by Maiden Police and was transported via Catawba EMS to Catawba Valley Medical Center where he was treated for his serious, self-inflicted wrist laceration as well as psychiatric care.

Sergeant Painter, although uninjured, was evaluated at Catawba Valley Medical Center for exposure to the individual's blood while taking him into custody.

Maiden Police also acknowledges the valuable assistance provided by deputies from the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and troopers from the North Carolina State Highway Patrol. Both agencies provided assistance and support.