

## SHOT ENDS THE PLEADING DISTRAUGHT SUSPECT KILLS SELF AS POLICE AND CROWD LOOK ON

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A Detroit man, who apparently **shot** his mother-in-law and then led police on a chase that ended with a standoff on **the** Lodge service drive near 7 Mile, **shot** himself in **the** head Friday to **the** horror of **pleading** police and a crowd that had gathered to watch.

Many in **the** crowd sobbed at **the** sight of 30-year-old Anthony Fields' desperate act. **The** man's family watched helplessly, then tried to run toward his car after **the** shooting.

Fields was chased by police moments after allegedly shooting his mother-in-law several times at a home in **the** 19900 block of Mark Twain. **The** 40-year-old woman, who was not identified by police or Grace Hospital officials, died Friday afternoon in **the** operating room of multiple gunshot wounds.

As **the** 2 1/2-hour standoff unfolded, around 250 people drove or walked from nearby neighborhoods to watch.

Some brought camcorders and still cameras. Others did a running play-by-play on cellular phones for friends and family. A few drank from brown paper bags or munched on fast food picked up at nearby restaurants.

"Damn, he did it, didn't he," said a teenager named Larry as he high-fived a friend, then watched as paramedics and police rushed to aid **the** dying man.

"I knew him from **the** neighborhood. I guess I just wanted to see if he really would do it," said Wanda Lane, 29, as her 2-year-old daughter Keanna took in **the** sights and sounds of **the** scene.

"Oh, this won't bother her," said Lane when asked why she had brought her daughter. "There's a lot worse stuff on television."

Another man stood across from Fields' car on **the** opposite Lodge Freeway service drive and accepted **the** congratulations of strangers for capturing **the** moment on his home video camera.

"I don't know where I'll show it, I'm just glad I have it," said **the** amateur photographer, who asked not to be identified but grinned from ear-to-ear. "This could be worth big bucks."

Fields was rushed to Grace Hospital where he died around 2:45 p.m., a hospital spokeswoman said.

His family members were **distraught** that police did not allow them to try to talk to Fields during **the** standoff.

"We could have saved him! We could have saved him!" screamed Fields' sister, who identified herself only as Linda. "It's all these cops' faults. We know we could have stopped him."

Fields' cousin, who asked not to be identified, said Fields had been through some "really tough times." She said another family member had just died and Fields was **distraught** because he wasn't spending enough time with his 7-year-old daughter.

A family friend -- 30-year-old Charisse Smith of Detroit -- said Fields and **the** child's mother had been having problems.

"He got in an argument because he wanted to see his little girl. His auntie told me that's when he **shot** his mother-in-law," Smith said. "He loved that little child so much."

A friend, who asked not to be named, said Fields had only been able to get temporary cleaning jobs.

After much **pleading** from officers, it appeared Fields was considering giving himself up when he unexpectedly **shot** himself.

"All **the** signs were there. It looked like it was almost over and then with no reason, he **shot** himself," said Deputy Police Chief Daniel McKane. "It was very sad. Certainly not what we wanted to see happen."

Commander Broderick Williams, who heads **the** 12th (Palmer Park) Precinct, said officers were trying to set up contact between Fields and his family with a cellular phone.

"This man had a loaded gun and had already proven that he was capable of shooting someone. **The** most important thing to us was to make sure no other family members or any one else was harmed," Williams said. "We had to keep everyone at a safe distance. We were attempting to set up contact between **the** man and his family, when he **shot** himself. There was nothing anyone could do."

Caption: Photo Color STEVEN R. NICKERSON/Detroit Free Press

: Anthony Fields holds a .357 Magnum revolver to his head during **the** standoff. Police sought Fields after his mother-in-law was **shot**. Kelvin Patrick, top, tries to talk Fields into giving up. For more on **the** officer, see Page 2A. A woman sinks to her knees Friday after Anthony Fields shoots himself. She said she is **the** victim's sister. **The** gunman held off police for 2 1/2 hours on **the** Lodge Freeway service drive in northwest Detroit.

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