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**Washington County Prosecutors Charge St. George Man with 51 Criminal Counts, Including Nine Counts of Attempted Murder After Firing on Police in Suburban Neighborhood**

**ST. GEORGE, UT** – Today, the Washington County Attorney's Office filed 51 criminal charges against Benjamin Lewis Hansen, the alleged assailant in Friday's harrowing shooting in the quiet Little Valley neighborhood of St. George. The charges stem from allegations that the defendant fired approximately 150 rounds of ammunition from inside his home, targeting law enforcement officers and endangering nearby residents. Officers had originally responded to the residence following a domestic disturbance call involving Hansen.

The charges filed against Hansen include:

- Nine counts of Attempted Murder (First-Degree Felony)
- One count of Attempted Aggravated Arson (Second-Degree Felony)
- Nine counts of Assault on a Peace Officer with a Dangerous Weapon (Second-Degree Felony)
- Twenty-two counts of Felony Discharge of a Firearm
- Multiple counts of Criminal Mischief, including property damage to an armored SWAT vehicle that was repeatedly struck by gunfire

The original probable cause statement submitted by law enforcement, as well as a supplemental probable cause statement on pages 10-11 of the Information (charging document), added by prosecutors after thorough review of the evidence contain the facts to support these allegations.

"This was a terrifying and dangerous incident that put both law enforcement officers and innocent neighbors at serious risk," said Courtney Brinkerhoff Sinagra, Deputy County Attorney and Public Information Officer. "Our office is committed to seeking justice for the threats and harm caused, and we want the public — and our officers — to know that we have their backs. When violence is directed at those who serve and protect, we will respond firmly and lawfully to ensure accountability and safeguard our community."

The Washington County Attorney's Office commends the bravery and professionalism of all responding officers and reaffirms its commitment to public safety and the rule of law. As with all criminal matters, the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

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