Shreveport Police Department
Chief Wayne Smith

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 8-14-2024

Shreveport Police Arrest Knife-Wielding Man on Elvis Presley Blvd

During the "Humor in Harmony" event, on August the 10th, around 8 p.m. Shreveport Police were dispatched to the 700 block of Elvis Presley Boulevard in response to reports of a possible homeless man armed with a knife. Witnesses reported that the man had threatened individuals attempting to enter the event area of the Municipal Auditorium grounds.

Officers immediately responded and attempted to make contact with the suspect, who then produced a knife, prompting the officers to deploy department-issued tasers. Despite initially providing multiple false names, the suspect was eventually identified as 61-year-old Gary Bennett. He has been charged with aggravated assault on a police officer.

We commend the actions of our officers, whose quick apprehension and de-escalation prevented any disturbance to the "Humor in Harmony" event, ensuring the festival remained a fantastic and peaceful experience for all attendees.