



# NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For Release: September 23, 2007

Contact: Cpl. Jennifer Reidy-Hall  
(410) 313-2236

## **Woman Shot in Leg During Domestic Dispute** *Male Suspect in Custody*

The Howard County Police Department has arrested and charged a Columbia man with shooting his girlfriend last night during a domestic dispute. Christopher Scott Meckes, 45, of the 6100 blk. of Waiting Spring, faces charges of first degree assault, second degree assault and reckless endangerment.

The incident started as an argument and escalated into a call to police for a subject shot at the couple's address at approximately 9:30 p.m. After speaking to the persons involved, police determined that during the argument, the male suspect obtained a handgun that he had in the house. He confronted the female with the weapon and it went off, causing a gunshot wound to her knee. She was transported to Shock Trauma in stable condition.

The female, who has been identified as 46-year-old Inez Smith, also sustained minor injuries to her face during the incident. She advised that Meckes assaulted her during the argument prior to the shot being fired.

No one else was at the residence at the time of the incident. Meckes was still on scene at the time of police arrival and was immediately apprehended.

###

Note: There is no additional information available at this time. The Office of Public Affairs will reopen Monday at 8:00 a.m.