

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Case# 13-513110

### **Man with Gun Demands Treatment at St. Vincent Hospital**

September 5, 2013—Sheriff's Deputies responded to Providence St. Vincent Hospital on a report of a man holding a black semi-automatic gun to his head, demanding medication. The hospital staff was able to talk the man into putting the gun down. He was arrested and lodged in the Washington County Jail.

Today at 7:04 a.m., Washington County Sheriff's Deputies responded to St. Vincent Hospital emergency room where Joseph Spina, 48, of Portland, reportedly held a gun to his head while demanding medication. The nurse on duty explained to Mr. Spina she was not comfortable with providing him treatment while he had a gun in his hand. She was able to move him to a treatment area where he then held the gun to his chest. The nurse again said she is not comfortable treating him while he held the gun. Mr. Spina put the gun down to receive treatment. Another staff member then moved the gun and gave it to Sheriff's Deputies when they arrived.

Prior to Sheriff's Deputies arrival, medical staff had moved Mr. Spina to a secure room. There were no more issues with Mr. Spina. There were no shots fired, nor was anyone injured during the incident.

Mr. Spina was lodged in the Washington County Jail. He is held on \$250,000 bail and charged with Robbery I, Unlawful Use of a Weapon, Harassment, and Menacing.



**Joseph Spina**