

Massachusetts Man Pleads Guilty to Child Pornography Offense

A Worcester man pleaded guilty yesterday in federal court in Worcester to possessing child pornography.

James M. Stoddard, 38, pleaded guilty to one count of possession of child pornography. U.S. District Court Judge Timothy S. Hillman scheduled sentencing for Jan. 3, 2019. Stoddard was arrested and charged in federal court in June 2018.

In February 2018, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received a CyberTip reporting that a file depicting apparent child pornography was uploaded from, what was later determined to be, an IP address associated with Stoddard. Further investigation led authorities to execute a state search warrant at Stoddard's residence in Worcester, which revealed numerous videos and images of child pornography, including videos of girls as young as nine-years-old engaged in sex acts with adult men. Investigators also found a homemade child-like sex doll and several pairs of female, child-sized undergarments.

During the search, Stoddard was not present, but had contacted his first-floor tenant for a law enforcement phone number that he could contact. Stoddard then called an officer and informed him that he was in Natick, suicidal, and had climbed a tree. Multiple law enforcement agencies responded to Stoddard's location and, after lengthy negotiations, Stoddard climbed down from the tree. He was subsequently arrested, charged in state court, and has been in state custody since.

Court documents also indicate that Stoddard is a Level 1 sex offender and failed to register his current address with the

Massachusetts Sex Offender Registry Board as he is required to do given a prior conviction for a child pornography offense.

Due to a prior conviction, Stoddard faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years and up to 20 years in prison, a minimum of five years and up to a lifetime of supervised release, and a fine of up to \$250,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling; Harold H. Shaw, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and Worcester Police Chief Steven M. Sargent made the announcement. The Worcester County District Attorney's Office and the Natick Police Department provided valuable assistance. Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Abely of Lelling's Worcester Branch Office is prosecuting the case.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In 2006, the Department of Justice created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorneys' Offices and DOJ's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

MS-13 Member Sentenced to

Life in Prison for RICO Conspiracy Involving Murder

A member of MS-13 was sentenced yesterday to life in prison for racketeering conspiracy and murder.

Hector Enamorado, a/k/a "Vida Loca," 39, a Honduran national, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge F. Dennis Saylor IV to life in prison. In April 2018, Enamorado was convicted by a federal jury of conspiracy to conduct enterprise affairs through a pattern of racketeering activity, more commonly referred to as RICO conspiracy, and of committing or knowingly participating in murder as part of the racketeering conspiracy.

Co-defendants Noe Salvador Perez Vasquez, a/k/a "Crazy," 27, a Salvadoran national, and Luis Solis Vasquez, a/k/a "Brujo," 27, a Salvadoran national, were also convicted of RICO conspiracy and of committing or knowingly participating in murder. Perez was sentenced in July 2018 to life in prison and Solis is scheduled to be sentenced on Oct. 17, 2018.

At trial, Enamorado was identified as a homeboy with the Chelsea Locos Salvatrucha (CLS) clique. In furtherance of its mission, MS-13 members are required to commit acts of violence, specifically against rival gang members; kill informants; and support and defend fellow MS-13 members in attacks. MS-13 rewards members who commit acts of violence with promotions within the gang and punishes members who break gang rules.

On Dec. 14, 2014, Enamorado, Perez Vasquez and Solis Vasquez, murdered a 29-year-old male victim at an apartment in Chelsea. Enamorado and the victim had engaged in a gang-related fight the night before the murder, and when Enamorado encountered the victim again the following night, Enamorado called Perez

Vasquez to ask him for a gun. Perez Vasquez delivered the murder weapon, a .380 caliber pistol, to Enamorado in Chelsea. Solis Vasquez armed himself with a gun and went with Enamorado into the apartment to provide backup and support for the attack. Enamorado used Perez Vasquez's gun to fatally shoot the victim three times. Enamorado also shot and wounded a second victim who was inside the apartment at the time of the murder.

Enamorado was one of 49 defendants convicted as part of this case. All nine defendants who went to trial were convicted and 40 others pleaded guilty. In all, 16 defendants, including Enamorado, were found to have committed or knowingly participated in murders.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling; Harold H. Shaw, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Field Division; Peter C. Fitzhugh, Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations in Boston; Colonel Kerry A. Gilpin, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police; Commissioner Thomas Turco of the Massachusetts Department of Corrections; Essex County Sheriff Kevin F. Coppinger; Suffolk County Sheriff Steven W. Thompkins; Suffolk County District Attorney John P. Pappas; Middlesex County District Attorney Marian T. Ryan; Essex County District Attorney Jonathan Blodgett; Boston Police Commissioner William Gross; Chelsea Police Chief Brian A. Kyes; Everett Police Chief Steven A. Mazzie; Lynn Police Chief Michael Mageary; Revere Police Chief James Guido; and Somerville Police Chief David Fallon made the announcement today. The U.S. Marshals Service has provided crucial assistance with the case.

New Bedford Pet Detective tips: “I lost/found a pet, now what?”

As the New Bedford Pet Detective, a few volunteers and I have helped over a thousand lost pets get back to their owner. In a typical week, helping a dozen pets get home through the New Bedford Pet Detective and New Bedford Guide Facebook pages is common. I thought I'd write this article to educate people on what to do when a pet is lost or found in the Greater New Bedford area.

I Lost a pet, what do I do?

1. The first thing you should do is note the time your furry friend went missing and the last location he/she was seen. It's important to have a starting point. This will help animal control and volunteers.
2. Get some recent photos together.
3. Contact your local animal control officer. Here's a list of phone numbers locally.

LOCAL ANIMAL CONTROL

Acushnet 508-998-9040

Marion 508-748-1212

Dartmouth 508-910-1840

Mattapoisett 508-758-4142

Carver 508-866-3444

New Bedford 508-991-6366

Fairhaven 508-979-4028

Rochester 508-763-2022

Fall River 508-677-3137

Wareham 508-295-1473 x250

Freetown 508-763-4017

Westport 508-678-6353

Lakeville 508-947-3174

The New Bedford Animal Control website has a form to report lost or stolen pets **here**. I would fill out the form and call them.

4. Message New Bedford Guide through our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/NewBedfordGuide/>) or email info@newbedfordguide.com and message the New Bedford Pet Detective (<https://www.facebook.com/nbpetdetective/>). the minimum details to provide are day/time/location lost, details about the pet (collar, color, name, size, and medical conditions), and most importantly your contact information such as a **phone number and/or email**. Asking us to tag your Facebook page won't be sufficient since Facebook may spam messages from people not in your friend's list.

Don't send an email that you never check! There is nothing worse than finding your pet and not being able to reach you.

5. If animal control doesn't have your pet, it's a good idea to call local animal hospitals. Here's a list of **local animal hospitals**.

6. Provide an update to us and animal control. First, there is no reason to continue to waste resources if your pet has been located. Second, concerned people on social media deserve an update – they are sharing your pet and maybe even looking for him/her. Help us close the loop!

I Found a pet, what do I do?

Generally, the steps are the same, contact animal control and New Bedford Guide/New Bedford Pet Detective. Provide details. New Bedford Animal Control also has a form for found pets on their website **here**. Fill that out and call them.

But the most important thing once you find someone claiming to be the owner is to VERIFY that the person claiming the pet is the owner. There are TONS of scammers just looking for animals to claim. They could want a pet, could sell it or even use it

for dog fighting. It shouldn't be hard to verify the owner – make them come with photos, vet records or some type of proof. If you do NOT feel comfortable for any reason, just bring the dog to animal control or a local pet shelter and inform the person claiming the pet. In New Bedford, pets are sent to Forever Paws in Fall River:

Forever Paws Animal Shelter

300 Lynwood Street,
Fall River, MA 02721

Phone: 508-677-9154

E-Mail: fpas1@foreverpaws.com

Office Hours: 11:00am – 4:00pm daily

It is very important to get the animal to the owner, animal control or a shelter as soon as possible. Some pets have medical conditions and animal control and shelters have the resources to not only take care of the pet, but locate the owner.

Hopefully, this quick guide helps! Have a tip? Share them in the comment section below!

Mayor Mitchell discusses proposed legislation to hold dangerous criminals

Governor Baker is proposing legislation to make it more difficult for courts in Massachusetts to release dangerous defendants. We asked Mayor Mitchell, who was a former US prosecutor, if it will have an impact and if he supports the move.

66-year old Taunton man killed in motorcycle crash in Kingston

This morning at about 4:05 a.m., troopers responded to single motorcycle crash on Route 3 in Kingston that resulted in the death of the operator. Richard Papp, 66 of Taunton was driving a 2012 XVS950 motorcycle Route 3 North by Exit 8 when he lost control on uneven pavement causing him to be thrown from the bike and landing in a travel lane. Papp was then struck by a 2014 Jeep Cherokee travelling northbound. The operator of the Jeep, a 31 year-old man from Plymouth stopped and remained at the scene of the crash. He has not been charged.

Papp was transported to Beth Israel Plymouth Hospital where he was pronounced deceased.

The right and left travel lanes of Route 3 North were closed for approximately two hours.

The crash remains under investigation with assistance from State Police Collision Analysis Reconstruction Section, Crime Scene Services Section, and the Plymouth County State Police Detective Unit.

Kingston Fire and EMS, and MassDOT were assisting with the crash scene.

New Bedford Mayor Mitchell on possible Charter School expansion

New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell discussed the push of Charter School schools wanting to expand in New Bedford.

How New Bedford could provide free parking for customers using City meters

Currently, New Bedford is providing two hours of free parking for many of the parking meters in downtown New Bedford. During my interview with Mayor Mitchell this past Wednesday, one of the business owners downtown voiced her happiness with the free parking and wanted to know how long it would last. Here is his response:

Mayor Mitchell pointed out that the two hours of free parking was temporary and would end soon, once the construction in the area of Union Street ends.

Convenient parking downtown became less numerous when **Mayor Mitchell converted about 60 public parking spots into today's Custom House park** near the water fountain on Union Street and accorss from Carter's Clothing and The Garden bar. Having more green space downtown came at a price – less parking in the

heart of downtown New Bedford. Yes, there are two large parking garages downtown on Elm Street (**which the City has invested \$5 million to upgrade recently**) and near the Zeiterion Theatre, but those are less convenient and further away from most of the downtown restaurants and retailers. Additionally, those 60 spots at Custom House Square were available for long-term parking – downtown meters have a limit of 2-hours.

During the past few holiday seasons, usually for the last 30-40 days of the year, the **Mitchell administration has provided free parking for those making a purchase at a downtown or Acushnet Avenue retailer**. Visitors to those areas are given two hours of free parking and if you go over that time, just submit a receipt from a business with your ticket and the ticket cost is waived. It's a popular program, so why not do it every day of the year? The obvious answer would be a significant loss of revenue for the City. The City of New Bedford takes in about \$1 million for parking fees and tickets.

It wouldn't be hard to implement a free parking program for customers as the City of New Bedford implemented a **smartphone app that allows you to scan a parking meter's QR Code**. Why not just provide the downtown and Acushnet Ave. businesses with their own QR Code and when visitor shops at their location scan it to waive the parking fee? I couldn't imagine it being too costly for the app developer to add this feature. An alternative would be to just submit your receipt with your ticket and have the ticket fee waived like the **free parking holiday program** allows.

What do you think? If you like the idea you can contact your New Bedford City Councilors **here**, message the mayor's office at Mayor.Mitchell@newbedford-ma.gov and leave a comment below!

Downtown New Bedford historical walking tour

Have you had a chance to take a downtown walking tour with the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park? Here's a highlight with some great New Bedford history ...

Live with New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell

New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell discussed tougher laws on criminals, NOAA's recent decision and how it will impact fishing, Comcast and more.

Mayor Mitchell discusses New Bedford water rate increases over the past three years

Mayor Mitchell was asked about the combined water-sewer rate going up 10% a year for the past three years and if that trend will continue in the future.