

# **Mexican/Guatemalan convicted of child rape, 171 illegals with pending charges netted by Boston ERO**

“BOSTON – Enforcement and Removal Operations Boston arrested a previously removed foreign national on January 25 who had been locally convicted of child rape and prostitution charges.

ERO Boston made the apprehension as part of a recent national immigration enforcement effort where U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement ERO officers apprehended 171 unlawfully present noncitizens with pending charges or convictions for murder, homicide or assault against children. The nationwide law enforcement effort ran from January 16 through January 28.

“ERO Boston remains committed to finding and removing predators such as this from our New England neighborhoods,” said ERO Boston Field Office Director Todd M. Lyons. “Our officers were able to locate and arrest this individual who has already proven to be a threat to children. Despite having been previously removed by ICE, he found his way back to the United States, falsely believing he could reside in Massachusetts without repercussions. ERO Boston will not allow that to happen.”

The 42-year-old Mexican citizen, who also holds Guatemalan citizenship, unlawfully entered the United States at an unknown location, on an unknown date prior to December 2004, without being inspected or admitted by a U.S. immigration official.

He was convicted of rape of a child and sentenced to prison by a criminal court in Kent County, Delaware, in 2004. Following his time in a Delaware state prison for that offense, he was

removed by immigration authorities in December 2006.

He later unlawfully reentered the United States on an unknown date at an unknown location without being inspected or admitted by a U.S. immigration official.

On November 3, 2015, he was convicted of sexual conduct for a fee in a criminal court in Lynn.

After ERO Boston confirmed his presence in its area of responsibility, deportation officers arrested him without incident in Lynn on January 25.

He will remain in ICE custody pending his removal from the United States. ERO Boston will seek his removal through reinstatement of a prior final order of removal issued by a federal immigration judge with the U.S. Department of Justice's Executive Office for Immigration Review.

ERO Boston did not release the man's name." -ERO Boston.

---

## **New Bedford man with 33 arraignments and 15 convictions, arrested again while out on bail**

Patrol officers have placed a repeat offender under arrest for a car break following a shoplifting investigation.

Shortly after midnight on February 6th, south-end patrol units were assisting Dartmouth police. Dartmouth officers were investigating a shoplifting incident at the Cumberland Farms

on Rockdale Ave. and seeking assistance with locating their suspect.

New Bedford officers fanned out into the adjoining neighborhood. While canvassing the area, Officers Juniel Jordan and Cameron Patota were able to locate the suspect, as well as a vehicle that had been broken into and rummaged through near Domino's Pizza. The owner was on scene and listed the numerous items that had been stolen. These items were then determined to have been taken by the suspect who was identified as Mr. JAVIER MONTALVO, 45, of New Bedford.

MONTALVO was placed under arrest by the New Bedford officers and charged with breaking and entering into a vehicle at night for the purpose of a felony. He was also charged with possession of a knife, the length of which violated city ordinance regulations. Dartmouth police have charged MONTALVO with shoplifting at Cumberland Farms.

At the time of this arrest, MONTALVO had four open cases out of New Bedford District Court for which he was out on bail. He has a lengthy criminal history including 33 arraignments with 15 convictions for a variety of offenses. MONTALVO also has a history of failing to appear for his court dates.

If you have any information you would like to share with the police, you can do so anonymously by visiting our website, [newbedfordpd.com](http://newbedfordpd.com), or by calling 508-99-CRIME.

---

**New Bedford Commercial**

# Fisherman Pleads Guilty to Income Tax Evasion

A crew member on commercial fishing vessels operating out of New Bedford pleaded guilty today to evading nearly \$300,000 in federal income taxes.

Rodolfo Membreno, 49, of Fall River, pleaded guilty to one count of evading and defeating taxes before U.S. District Judge Richard G. Stearns. Judge Stearns scheduled sentencing for May 15, 2024. Membreno was indicted by a federal grand jury in April 2023.

From 2013 through 2021, Membreno earned more than \$1.3 million working as a commercial fisherman. During the calendar years 2013 through 2019 Membreno failed to file federal income tax returns. He then filed a false tax return for 2020, before again failing to file a return for calendar year 2021. Membreno failed to pay any income taxes on his fishing income and took other measures to prevent the IRS from tracing his income or determining his tax liabilities, including routinely cashing his paychecks and using the cash to fund his personal lifestyle. Membreno's scheme resulted in tax losses of approximately \$293,118 to the IRS, not including penalties and interest.

The charge of tax evasion carries a statutory maximum penalty of five years in prison, three years of supervised release, a fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss, whichever is greater, and restitution to the IRS. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy; Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General Stuart M. Goldberg of the Justice

Department's Tax Division; and Harry Chavis, Jr., Special Agent in Charge of the Internal Revenue Service's Criminal Investigations in Boston made the announcement today. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Victor A. Wild of the Securities, Financial & Cyber Fraud Unit of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts and Trial Attorney Ezra Spiro and Acting Chief John Kane of the Justice Department's Tax Division.

---

## **Missing persons, violent fugitives, prostitution; Dartmouth motels are becoming a serious issue**

On Wednesday night, a SWAT team breached the Best Western Motel on Route 6 in Dartmouth to capture a dangerous fugitive wanted on 7 warrants. Dartmouth Police got their man, Royleton Haston, Jr., 22, of Plymouth, Massachusetts, thankfully without incident.

But this unfortunately is not a unique scenario, as Dartmouth Police are constantly called to this strip of motels along Route 6 which is a hub of crime in an otherwise safe town of Dartmouth. If something shady is happening in Dartmouth, the overwhelming odds are that it's happening along this strip of Route 6. I know this because I live nearby and I see it daily.

Following the arrest of the fugitive on Wednesday, Dartmouth Chief of Police, Brian P. Levesque noted,

“Sadly, dangerous fugitives such as Haston, Jr. are frequently

found while hiding in the hotels and motels in our town. Had it not been for the keen observation of a new officer, and the rapid response of the numerous assets available to us, it is more than likely that Haston, Jr. would still be putting the public in danger by once again eluding arrest.”

Clearly, the Dartmouth Police are proactively attacking this issue; just last week they arrested 7 individuals in an undercover sting operation held at these motels. The Dartmouth Police Department Investigative Services Division, in partnership with the Massachusetts State Police High-Risk Victims Unit, conducted an undercover sting operation to combat the growing threat of prostitution and commercial sexual exploitation.

Throughout the day and night, detectives working in an undercover capacity arranged to meet with suspects at a local hotel/motel through an online ad that was posted. As a result of the operation, a total of 7 men were arrested and charged with sexual conduct for a fee.

Following this operation, Dartmouth Chief of Police Brian P. Levesque noted,

“This operation was the direct result of our commitment to combating the ongoing issues that we are experiencing at our local hotels and motels. Though it is impossible to completely eradicate the inherent problems that come with the transient environment that these establishments support, I would like it to be known that we, along with our partners at the State Police, will be taking further progressive measures to suppress this activity moving forward.”

Along with daily petty crime, housing fugitives, and operating as a hub for prostitution, it is also important to mention that a man has been missing for three years after his last known whereabouts was checking into one of these motels. Henry V Fermino was 60 years old when he went missing on May 9th

2021 and was last seen at the "Capri Motel" at 741 State Rd in North Dartmouth, MA.

He checked into the Capri Motel by himself Saturday on 05/08/2021 for two nights. On Sunday 05/09/2021 the girlfriend of Henry stated she received a phone call from a stranger's phone and had a voicemail from Henry at around 8:00 AM. Some strangers while having breakfast stated they observed Henry crossing Route 6 away from the Motel.

Later that day, the housekeeper stated that around 2:00 PM she saw Henry with an unknown male she had never seen before but no vehicle was parked out front. His cell phone last pinged in the area of the Motel up until Tuesday 05/11/2021. The housekeeper stated she found Henry's cell phone while cleaning his room on Monday 05/10/2021. Henry has not been seen or heard from since.



# **Dartmouth Police seek public's help identifying man for alleged larceny from disable person**

"Calling all cAHs...Calling all cAHs

Apparently this guy is not part of "The Money Team," as DPD is looking to identify him in connection with larceny from a disabled person over 60.

If anyone has information that can help us identify him, they are strongly encouraged to either send us a private message or call Detective Kyle Berube at 508-910-1760.

In addition, you can also submit an anonymous tip by clicking on the following link:  
<https://www.dartmouthpd.org/resources/tip411-submit-a-tip/>

Thank you!

PLEASE SHARE! -Dartmouth Police Department.

---

# **Plymouth fugitive arrested by Dartmouth Police for multiple warrants**

"DARTMOUTH, MA – On Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at approximately 8:50 p.m., Dartmouth Police Officer Alex TISDELLE observed a vehicle at the Best Western Motel matching

the description of one associated with wanted fugitive, Royleton HASTON, Jr., 22, of Plymouth, Massachusetts.

HASTON, who has been the subject of several police incidents, was wanted on a total of seven (7) warrants, including assault and battery on a correctional facility employee, two (2) counts of assault and battery on a correctional facility employee with a bodily substance, malicious destruction to a motor vehicle, violation of an abuse prevention order, violation of an abuse prevention involving assault and battery, and failure to stop for police.

As HASTON, Jr. is inclined towards violence and running from the police, assets assigned to the Southeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council SWAT team responded to the scene, while Dartmouth Police Detective Matthew CORREIA drafted a search warrant for the room where HASTON, Jr. was staying.

After the hallway was secured by SWAT team members, HASTON, Jr. was taken into custody without incident.

According to Dartmouth Chief of Police, Brian P. LEVESQUE, "Sadly, dangerous fugitives such as HASTON, Jr. are frequently being found while hiding in the hotels and motels in our town. Had it not been for the keen observation of a new officer, and the rapid response of the numerous assets available to us, it is more than likely that HASTON, Jr. would still be putting the public in danger by once again eluding arrest."-Dartmouth Police.



*Dartmouth Police photo.*

---

**Middleborough FedEx driver  
sentenced for stealing  
packages with firearms,**

# selling them

“BOSTON – A Middleborough, Mass. man was sentenced to six days in prison for stealing and selling three firearms from FedEx packages he was responsible for delivering. The government recommended a sentence of 10 months in prison.

Frank P. O’Toole, 40, was sentenced on Feb. 2, 2024 by U.S. District Court Judge Angel Kelley to time served (six days) and three years of supervised release, during which period he must complete 250 hours of community service. On June 16, 2023, O’Toole pleaded guilty to two counts of possession or sale of a stolen firearm.

O’Toole previously worked as a FedEx delivery truck driver at a facility in Middleborough. Between October 2021 and June 2022, O’Toole stole three packages sent from out-of-state which he was responsible for delivering, each containing a firearm – specifically, two rifles and a shotgun – intended for a Federal Firearms Licensee. O’Toole subsequently sold the three firearms to an undercover agent during two separate controlled purchases on Aug. 9, 2022 and Aug. 12, 2022.

Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy; James M. Ferguson, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives; and Middleborough Police Chief Joseph Perkins made the announcement today. Assistant U.S. Attorney Elianna J. Nuzum of the Major Crimes Unit prosecuted the case.”-Massachusetts Department of Justice.

---

# **62-year-old man shoots woman, has standoff with SWAT, at Massachusetts trailer park**

"On Monday, February 5th at approximately 12:07pm, the Danvers Police Department received a 911 call from a female party located at 98 Newbury Street.

The female stated that she had been shot multiple times and had fled to a neighbor's trailer. Responding officers proceeded to both the suspect's trailer and the trailer where the victim was located, establishing a perimeter in both locations. As officers began to approach the trailers, the suspect fired several rounds out of the window, towards officers.

Officers were able to make contact with the victim who was safely extracted and transported to Beverly Hospital, and later med-flighted to a Boston Hospital. The Northeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (NEMLEC) was activated and dispatched assets to assist along with the Massachusetts State Police and numerous area departments.

After approximately 2 hours, the suspect, identified as Joseph M. Hurley, 62-years-old, was taken into custody by NEMLEC officers and transported to the hospital.

This continues to be an active investigation by the Danvers Police Department, Essex County District Attorney's Office, State Police Detectives assigned to the District Attorney's Office, and the Massachusetts State Police Crime Scene Services.

Hurely is being charged with Armed Assault with Intent to Murder, 3 counts of Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, Unlawful Possession of a Firearm and Unlawful Possession of Ammunition.

Hurley is expected to be arraigned in Salem District Court on Tuesday.” -Danvers Police Department.

**All photos by the Danvers Police Department:**











---

**New Bedford  
investigating**

**Police  
possible**

# shooting on Sunday afternoon

We received reports of a possible shooting in New Bedford on Sunday afternoon. We reached out to the New Bedford Police Department to confirm and they gave us an update.

“On Sunday, February 4th at around 1:30 PM, patrol units responded to a complainant who reported their car being shot at in the area of Purchase St. and Pope St. The occupants of the vehicle gave conflicting statements about what had occurred, however, the vehicle appeared to have damage to the trunk. Detectives are further investigating.”

Carlos Felix was at the scene as police were investigating.

---

# Gang of people caught on video vandalizing cars in New Bedford

A gang of people were walking around New Bedford at night vandalizing residents' cars and houses. We initially received footage of a group on Sycamore Street kicking the passenger side mirror off of a vehicle. Once this video was posted on social media we received multiple videos of this same group of people walking around vandalizing property.

Residents began commenting under these videos their own stories as to how their property has recently been damaged in the same area. One individual posted the following photo captioned, “I’m tired of it, they need to be charged!”



Other residents were commenting that their house had been “Egged” that same night in that area. Below is an example of what these low life criminals are doing to New Bedford residents’ property.