

Person driving car slams into Lakeville Dollar tree, flees scene

“LAKEVILLE – Chief Matthew Perkins reports that the Lakeville Police Department is investigating after a vehicle struck a retail store Sunday morning and fled the scene.

At approximately 10 a.m., Lakeville Police and Fire responded to the Dollar Tree, located at 56 Main St., for a report of a vehicle that had hit the store.

The initial on-scene investigation showed that a vehicle had jumped the curb and hit the building, breaking glass on the building’s storefront. The vehicle involved fled the scene.

No injuries were reported. The Building Commissioner was notified.

The investigation remains active and ongoing. Anyone with information about the incident is asked to contact Lakeville Police at 508-947-4422.”-Lakeville Police Department.

Michigan man arrested by police for allegedly trying to blow up Satanic temple in

Salem, Massachusetts

"On January 2 at approximately 10:30am officers from the Grant Police Department received information from detectives with the Kent County Sheriff's Office that an individual living in Grant was possibly building homemade explosive devices.

It was reported that the devices had been partially dismantled and disabled, then thrown into his trash receptacle.

The Michigan State Police bomb squad was contacted for assistance. Shortly, thereafter, these devices were located in the trash receptacle. Additionally, the Kent County Sheriff's Office arrested 30-year-old Luke Isaac Terpstra on Jan. 2 in Kent County and took possession of other weapons. The subject indicated his intent to attack a location outside of Michigan.



Grant Police Department photo.

Terpestra received a \$1 million cash bond. This is an ongoing investigation and more charges are possible. Luke Isaac Terpstra, 30, of Michigan, was arrested by the Grant Police Department on Jan. 2 and charged with Explosives – Possession of Bombs with Unlawful Intent.

The Michigan State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation are actively involved in the probe.

“The City of Salem and the Salem Police Department recognize that it is frightening and concerning that there are individuals who would threaten or carry out violent attacks against others based on their beliefs and that we are a target,” Salem Police said. “On the one hand it is gratifying that our federal and local partners were able to thwart Terpstra. On the other, it is terrifying that he walked in our midst planning such violence.



Grant Police Department photo.

It is for this reason, we maintain a presence on the Joint Terrorist Task Force (JTTF), we maintain an explosive ordinance detection K9, we participate with our partner agencies in the Northeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (NEMLEC), we train our officers for such an attack, and we carry additional armor in our cars,” the release continued. “Regardless, an attack such as Terpstra was planning keeps us up at night.”

Mayor Dominick Pangallo and Police Chief Lucas Miller “believe it is important that the people of Salem be aware of this arrest and its connection to our city. Salem is a diverse, vibrant, and welcoming community and the City and the Police Department of Salem are committed to ensuring the safety of all who live in, work in, or visit our community.”-Grant Police Department.

New Bedford business owner sentenced for selling fake government identification documents

“Defendant continued to sell fraudulent Permanent Resident Cards and Social Security cards after he pleaded guilty.

BOSTON – The owner of International Guatemala Musical and Fashion Accessories in New Bedford was sentenced yesterday for producing and selling fraudulent government identification documents.

Tomas Xirum, 48, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Patti B. Saris to 18 months in federal prison. In August 2023, he pleaded guilty to three counts of unlawful transfer of document or authentication feature and three counts of unlawful production of document or authentication feature.

On three separate occasions – May 10, 2021, June 23, 2021 and Aug. 11, 2022 – Xirum sold fraudulent Permanent Resident Cards (commonly referred to as “green cards”) and Social Security cards to undercover agents from his store.

After pleading guilty, Xirum continued to produce and sell fraudulent government identifications, thus revoking his pretrial release.

Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy; Michael J. Krol, Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations in New England; and New Bedford Police Chief Paul Oliveira made the announcement today. Assistant U.S. Attorney David G. Tobin of the Major Crimes Unit prosecuted the case.”-Massachusetts Department of Justice.

Massachusetts man sentenced for sex trafficking child under 14-years old he solicited over Facebook

“A Springfield man was sentenced yesterday for sex trafficking a minor under 14 years old.

Carlos Casillas, 51, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Mark G. Mastroianni to 220 months in prison to be followed by five years of supervised release. In July of 2023, Casillas was convicted by a federal jury of one count of sex trafficking of a minor.

“Let the message go out loud and clear – if you prey on vulnerable girls and traffic minors you will spend a long, long time behind bars. Casillas used this victim’s vulnerability and challenging circumstances to take advantage of her,” said Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy. “Preying on vulnerable young children will never be

tolerated.”

“Casillas preyed upon a child who was vulnerable and disenfranchised. Like many traffickers, he took advantage of her situation and used the power he had over her to ensnare and exploit her. Today’s significant sentence takes him off the street and away from those he could harm,” said Michael J. Krol, Special Agent in Charge for Homeland Security Investigations in New England.

In September 2021, an investigation began into Casillas for sex trafficking activity involving a 13-year-old girl living in a group home in the custody of the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families. Evidence presented at trial established that Casillas solicited the minor victim using Facebook messenger, picked the minor victim up from her group home and eventually took her to a local motel under the guise of taking her to Boston. He initiated conversations about leaving the group home and exchanging money for services. Casillas knowingly used his age difference and superior resources to entice the victim.

Acting U.S. Attorney Levy; HSI SAC Krol; Hampden County District Attorney Anthony D. Gulluni; Hampden County Sheriff Nicholas Cocchi; and West Springfield Police Chief Ronald Campurciani made the announcement today. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Catherine G. Curley and Deepika Bains Shukla of the Springfield Branch Office prosecuted the case.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse, launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by the U.S. Attorneys’ Offices and the 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

Salem man sentenced to prison for child pornography, owning images of child under 12-years-old

"BOSTON – A Salem, Mass. man was sentenced yesterday in federal court in Boston for distributing and possessing child sexual abuse material (CSAM).

Andrew R. Sorrento, 35, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Indira Talwani to six years in prison and five years of supervised release. In October 2023, Sorrento pleaded guilty to possession and distribution of child pornography.

In July 2022, Sorrento was identified as an individual distributing CSAM via social media and text messages. During a search of Sorrento's Salem residence on Dec. 9, 2022, his cell phone was seized and found to contain 23 images and seven videos depicting CSAM – including images of a child under 12-years-old.

Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy and Michael J. Krol, Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations in New England made the announcement today. Valuable assistance was provided by Homeland Security Investigations in Calgary (Canada). Assistant U.S. Attorney David G. Tobin of the Major Crimes Unit prosecuted the case.

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Randolph Man Sentenced to 11 Years in Prison for Sex Trafficking Minor

A Randolph man was sentenced yesterday in federal court in Boston for sex trafficking a 15-year-old minor.

Admilson Gomes Pires, 26, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Leo T. Sorokin to 11 years in prison and five years of supervised release. Pires was also ordered to pay \$5,500 in restitution to the victim. In September 2023, Pires was convicted by a federal jury of one count of sex trafficking of a child and one count of conspiracy to commit sex trafficking of a child.

"Mr. Pires not only preyed upon a minor runaway, but he cruelly subjected her to sexual abuse and trafficking. His calculated manipulation, from grooming this vulnerable young girl to orchestrating commercial sex transactions, demonstrate a reprehensible lack of humanity," said Acting United States

Attorney Joshua S. Levy. "This case underscores why combatting human trafficking, which often hides in plain sight, is such a high priority for this office. January is National Human Trafficking Prevention Month and our office remains steadfast in our commitment to combatting this heinous conduct, seeking justice for survivors and holding perpetrators accountable. The exploitation of vulnerable individuals, especially minors, will never be tolerated."

"Admilson Pires is a predator who groomed a 15-year-old child who ran away from home for his own gratification and profit, and today's sentence reflects the seriousness of his crimes," said Jodi Cohen, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division. "Sex trafficking is among the most depraved crimes on the books, and using a victim-centered approach, FBI Boston's Child Exploitation – Human Trafficking Task Force will continue to do everything it can to protect our most vulnerable from those who seek to manipulate and harm them."

In February 2019, Pires met the minor victim who had run from her home in Western Massachusetts and began a sexual relationship with her. Pires groomed the minor victim and, in July 2019, began trafficking her in Boston and Norwood. He first sold the minor victim for sex to his adult uncle in Dorchester and then created and posted a commercial sex advertisement online that contained explicit photographs and a video of the minor victim. Pires told the minor victim that she would have to engage in prostitution with strangers if she wanted to stay in a relationship with him.

Pires used drugs to manipulate an adult female into agreeing to harbor the minor victim at her apartment in Norwood for sex trafficking. Over the course of 11 days, Pires had the minor victim engage in commercial sex for him out of the Norwood apartment – arranging four to five "dates" per day in exchange for money he kept himself. On at least one occasion, a sex buyer that Pires had arranged for the minor victim to have sex

with was extremely violent toward her.

On Aug. 1, 2019, local law enforcement located the minor victim in Norwood and returned her home.

If you or someone you know may be impacted or experiencing commercial sex trafficking, please contact USAMA.VictimAssistance@usdoj.gov.

Acting U.S. Attorney Levy and FBI SAC Cohen made the announcement today. Valuable assistance was provided by the Suffolk and Norfolk County District Attorney's Offices; the Massachusetts State Police; and the Arlington, Boston, Fall River, Norwood, Randolph and Springfield Police Departments. Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy Moran, Chief of the Organized Crime and Gang Unit and Assistant U.S. Attorney Elizabeth Riley, Chief of the Civil Rights & Human Trafficking Unit prosecuted the case.

Chicago Rapper "G Herbo" sentenced in Boston for role in fraud conspiracy, making false statements

"BOSTON – A Chicago-area rap artist was sentenced today in federal court in Springfield, Mass. for participating in a nationwide wire fraud conspiracy that victimized businesses across the United States and for making a false statement to a federal agent to conceal his involvement.

Herbert Wright, 25, a/k/a "G Herbo," was sentenced by U.S.

District Court Judge Mark G. Mastroianni to three years' probation. Wright was also ordered to pay restitution and forfeiture of \$139,968 each, as well as a \$5,500 fine.

In July 2023, Wright pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and one count of making a false statement to a federal official.

Wright was initially indicted by a federal grand jury in December 2020 along with five co-defendants, including rap promoter Antonio Strong, in connection with the alleged fraud conspiracy. Wright was subsequently charged with making false statements in May 2021.

"On social media, Mr. Wright boasted an extravagant lifestyle. He gave the impression that his use of private jets, luxury cars and tropical villas were the legitimate fruits of his booming rap career as "G Herbo." However, his lavish lifestyle was shamelessly built on deceit and fraud using stolen account information that inflicted substantial harm on numerous businesses, leaving a wake of victims burdened with financial losses." said Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy.

"This case should serve as a stark reminder that breaking the law leads to prosecution and accountability, regardless of who you are, how many likes you rack up or how many followers you have."

Beginning in at least March 2017 through November 2018, Wright and, allegedly, his co-defendants, conspired to defraud numerous businesses and individuals throughout the United States by using unauthorized and stolen payment card account information of real individuals – including the actual cardholders' names, addresses, security codes and account expiration dates. Generally, because the payment card information was authentic, the defrauded businesses and individuals successfully processed the fraudulent transactions and provided the goods and services to Wright and his alleged

co-conspirators. The actual cardholders discovered these transactions on their accounts and disputed the charges with their card companies, who then charged back the transactions to the businesses and individuals, which consequently suffered losses in the amounts of the unauthorized transactions.

According to court documents, Wright frequently asked Strong for a number of luxury goods or services, such as flights, vehicles ("whips"), or accommodation ("cribs"), which Strong allegedly often procured by fraud using the stolen payment card account information. This included: four private jet charters for a total cost of over \$80,000; over \$34,000 in exotic car rentals including a Mercedes Benz 5560 and a Cadillac Escalade; and over \$14,500 for a villa rental in Jamaica for which Wright also requested that Strong provide vehicles and an additional credit card account for his incidentals.

Wright also used fraud proceeds to travel to various concert venues and to advance his career by posting photographs and/or videos of himself on the private jets, in exotic cars and at the Jamaican villa on social media and in music videos.

Additionally, according to court documents in November 2018, Wright falsely told a federal agent that he never worked with or was assisted by Strong; he never provided Strong any money; he never received anything of value from Strong; and he had no direct relationship with Strong. In fact, since at least 2016 it is alleged that Strong worked with and assisted Wright; Wright allegedly provided Strong money; Wright allegedly received valuable goods from Strong, including private jet charters, luxury accommodations and exotic car rentals; and Wright allegedly had frequent direct contact with Strong, including phone conversations, text messages and Instagram messages.

Wright admitted, as part his guilty plea, that he was responsible for \$139,878 in victim losses. Strong has pleaded

not guilty.

Acting U.S. Attorney Levy and Andrew Murphy, Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Secret Service, Boston Field Office made the announcement. Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven H. Breslow of the Springfield Branch Office and Trial Attorneys Andrew Tyler and Kyle Crawford of the Justice Department's Criminal Division's Fraud Section prosecuted the case.

The details contained in the charging documents are allegations. The remaining defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law."-Massachusetts Department of Justice.

Video captures brutal knockout in parking lot of New Bedford bar

An anonymous source recently sent us a video capturing a man punching and knocking out another man in the parking lot of "The Last Round" in New Bedford. This individual told us, "I want to be anonymous but this is Servulo Pires, assaulting a man who he didn't know in the parking lot of Last Round. He hit him without expecting it breaking multiple teeth and breaking his eye socket."

The New Bedford Police Department was notified and released this statement regarding the video: "We have determined that this video captures an incident that took place on September 3rd of last year. Mr. SERVULO PIRES, 30, of New Bedford has been charged with Assault and Battery causing serious injury. The case remains open in New Bedford district court."

The video of the incident is captured below:

New Hampshire man pleads guilty to series of extortionate bomb threats against Harvard University

“Threats caused evacuation at Harvard and the controlled detonation of a hoax device.

BOSTON — A Manchester, N.H., man pleaded guilty today in federal court in Boston for a series of extortionate bomb threats against Harvard University. The extortionate threats caused the evacuation of Harvard’s Science Center Plaza and surrounding academic buildings, and the controlled detonation of what was later determined to be a hoax device on April 13, 2023.

William A. Giordani, 55, pleaded guilty to one count of concealing a federal felony. U.S. District Court Judge Angel Kelley scheduled sentencing for April 25, 2024. Giordani was initially arrested and charged by criminal complaint in May 2023 and subsequently indicted by a federal grand jury in June 2023.



F.B.I. photo.

In the early afternoon of April 13, 2023, Giordani placed a large tool bag, which concealed a locked safe containing fireworks and electrical wires, in the center of Harvard's Science Center Plaza, where students and others had gathered. Shortly thereafter, a caller, using a voice changing app to conceal his identity, called the Harvard University Police Department (HUPD) and said that he had placed three bombs on the Harvard campus. The caller demanded an unspecified amount in Bitcoin to prevent the remote detonation of the bombs. In several ensuing calls, the caller told HUPD that he was

serious about his demands and that they could find the first bomb in the Science Center Plaza.

HUPD discovered the device planted by Giordani, next to a bench in the center of Science Center Plaza and issued an emergency evacuation order of the area and nearby buildings. A responding bomb squad from the Cambridge Police Department assessed and disabled the device. No additional devices were found on campus that day.



F.B.I. photo.

A subsequent investigation revealed that Giordani had been recruited to join the extortion scheme via a craigslist.org advertisement. Once Giordani knew he had been recruited to assist in an extortionate bomb scheme, he had an obligation under federal law to report that scheme to law enforcement authorities. Instead, he deleted incriminating text messages, told his girlfriend not to speak to anyone about it and went on the run from police.

The charge of concealing a felony provides for a sentence of up to three years in prison and one year of supervised release. 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; Jodi Cohen, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Boston Division; Harvard University Police Chief Victor Clay; and Cambridge Police Commissioner Christine Elow made the announcement. Assistance was provided by the Nashua (N.H.) Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney John T. McNeil of the National Security Unit is prosecuting the case."- Massachusetts Department of Justice.



F.B.I. photo.

Massachusetts State Police

help disabled vehicle, charge felon with firearm, narcotics, tax, traffic offenses

"Last Friday, one of our members, assigned to SP South Boston, observed a disabled motor vehicle on the Tobin bridge heading into Chelsea.

When our Trooper approached the vehicle, the operator exited the running vehicle from the driver seat and stated that he was not the operator of the vehicle and that he did not have a license or ID on him. It was later found, that his license was suspended. During our member's investigation, a box full of THC products and psilocybin products was recovered as well as a box full of unregulated flavored nicotine products, and a black cross-body bag with an illegal semi-automatic handgun, cocaine, heroin, Adderall, OxyContin, Xanax, psilocybin mushrooms, and a digital scale.

The suspect was taken into custody without incident and held on \$50,000 bail. He now faces the following charges:

- POSSESSION OF FIREARM WITHOUT FID CARD/ 269-10-H
- POSSESSION OF AMMO WITHOUT FID CARD/ 269-10-H-1
- FIREARM IN FELONY, POSSESS/ 265-18B-A
- POSSESSION / CARRYING A FIREARM/ 269-10-A
- DRUG, POSSESS TO DISTRIB CLASS A, SUBSQ. / 94C-32-D
- DRUG, POSSESS TO DISTRIB CLASS C, SUBSQ. / 94C-32B-D
- DRUG, POSSESS OT DISTRIB CLASS B, SUBSQ. /94C-32A-H
- DRUG, POSSESS TO DISTRIB CLASS D/ 94C-32-C
- ESTATE TAX, EVADE-65C-26."-State Police Association of Massachusetts.



State Police Association of Massachusetts photo.