

# **New Bedford business owner and police seek public's help in identifying suspect**

"Posting here in the event someone might recognize this person. Two weeks ago today my small business was broken into in downtown New Bedford.

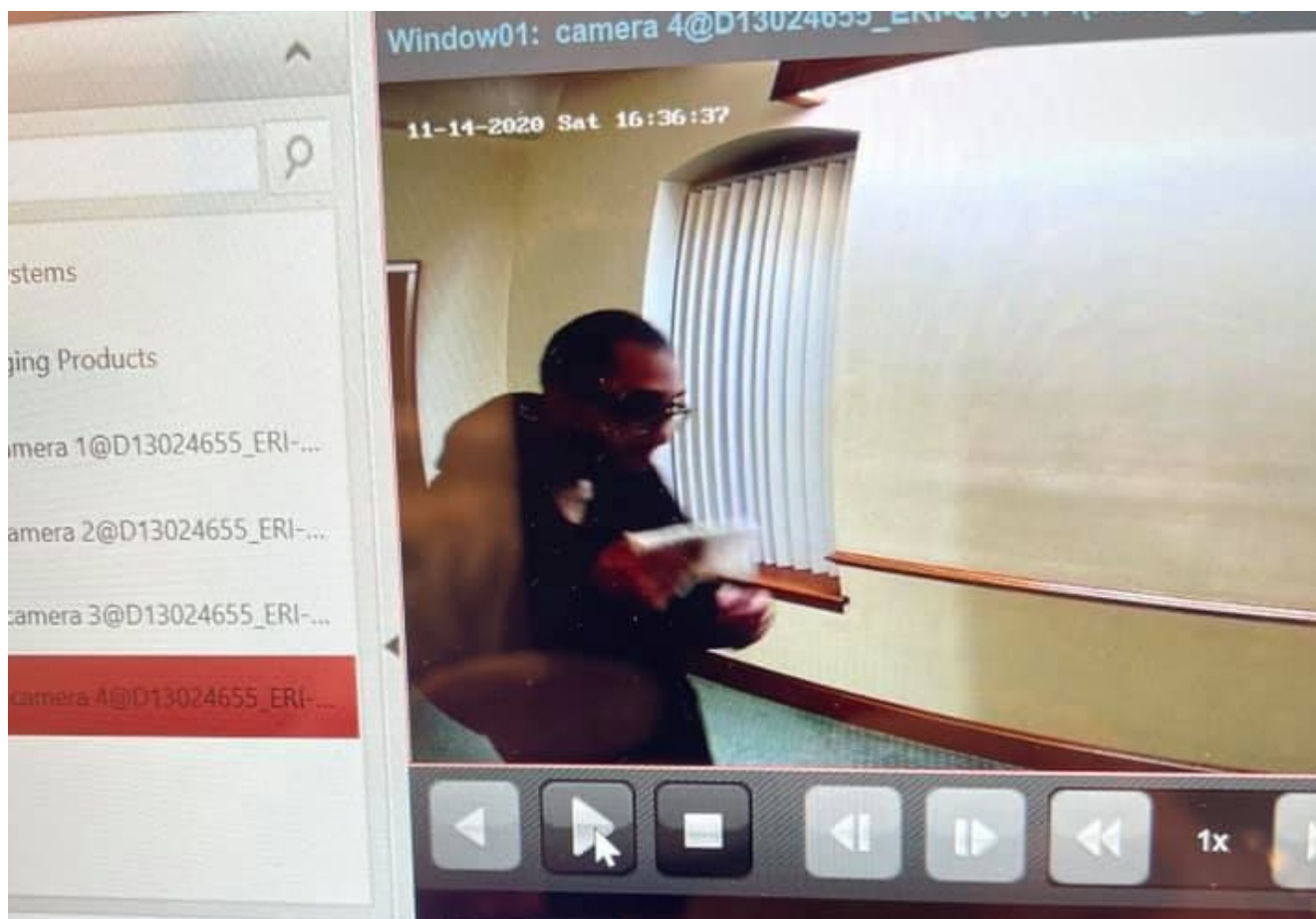
There are cameras in our building and I felt we got a pretty good shot of the guy, but there are no leads as of yet. My receptionist saw him briefly when he entered the building the first time. I did not see him; I only have the video footage. She described him as tall, late 20s/early 30s, dark hair, beard, and glasses. Our video showed him to have a blue cell phone case.

Yesterday, a young man entered my building in the same fashion and at the same times as the original break-in. Because I didn't see the first guy in person, I can't confirm that it was the same guy. However, the description is very similar, and his moves were the same. It also appears he has the same or similar glasses. The man I saw yesterday id describe as late 20s, tall, beard, and glasses. He wore a black sweatshirt, navy blue sneakers, and a mustard-colored beanie. It's apparent he attempted the same break in method as the man from two weeks ago but was unsuccessful yesterday due to more measures in place.

I feel uneasy as I search for answers as to why this man or men keep coming into my workplace. None of my staff recognized either man on either occasion and he's not believed to be associated with my business. This appears to be random, and I've learned I haven't been the only business targeted recently in the downtown New Bedford area.

Any info, please message me or contact Scott Brown at the

NBPD.”-Jennifer Lynn.



*Photo by Jennifer Lynn.*



*Photo by Jennifer Lynn.*



*Photo by Jennifer Lynn.*

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# **Boston Police respond to armed robbery of a blind man**

At about 12:26 PM on Wednesday November 25, 2020, officers assigned to District D-4 (South End) responded to a call for an armed robbery in progress in the area of 760 Boylston Street in the Back Bay.

On arrival, officers were met by an adult male victim and several witnesses who stated that a male suspect, later identified as Brian Buhamiizo, 38, of Boston, had approached the victim and attempted to rob him. The victim, who is legally blind, stated that the suspect approached him and grabbed his guide cane while stating that he was in possession of a firearm and demanding the victim's property.

The victim was able to break away from the suspect and call 911 with the assistance of the witnesses on scene. Responding officers soon stopped a suspect matching the description provided by those witnesses in the area of 699 Boylston Street where he was placed in custody after being positively identified. No firearm was recovered.

The suspect will appear in Boston Municipal Court on charges of Assault with Intent to Rob While Armed, Assault and Battery on a Person Over the Age of 60 or Disabled and Threats to Commit a Crime.

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# Two shot, one dead in New Bedford Friday morning

New Bedford Police, Massachusetts State Police detectives assigned to the district attorney's office, and Homicide Unit prosecutors are actively investigating a homicide, which took place this morning in the city of New Bedford.

New Bedford Police received 911 calls regarding shots fired on Lafrance Street at around 10:21 a.m. today. When officers arrived on scene, they located one of two victims and rushed him to St. Luke's Hospital. That victim, who was later identified as 40-year-old Angel Cruz, was later pronounced deceased. It is unclear at this time where Mr. Cruz was currently residing.

A second shooting victim was able to get into a vehicle and attempted to drive to the hospital, but crashed in the area of Linden and County streets. That victim, a 32-year-old New Bedford man, was rushed to St. Luke's Hospital before being transported to Rhode Island Hospital. This victim, who is not being identified at this time, is listed in critical condition.

While police were investigating the double-shooting, they received a description of the shooter. About 45 minutes after the double-shooting, New Bedford Police officers came upon a man matching the shooter's description near the corner of Penniman and Reynolds streets. When officers approached the man, later identified as Jon Zell, 18, of Mattapoisett, he began firing a handgun at them. After firing all the bullets in the gun, police were able to subdue him and take him into custody.

No officers were injured during the incident and none of the officers returned fire on the suspect before getting him into

custody.

The defendant is being charged at this time with multiple counts of armed assault with intent to murder. More charges may be lodged against the defendant as the investigation continues. He is slated to be held in jail through the weekend and arraigned on Monday morning in New Bedford District Court.

The investigation into this case is extremely active and ongoing at this time. No further comment can be made.

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## **Wareham Police investigation into car break-ins leads to charges and return of stolen property**

On Wednesday, November 25, Wareham Police Officer Nate Aronson headed an investigation which resulted in nearly \$2,500 worth of stolen property being returned to owners, and a suspect being charged.

The incident began when police responded at 12:15 a.m. to a residence in East Wareham, where they were told stolen items could be located. A suspect was quickly identified, and a short while later was apprehended on Depot Street by Officer Robert McLain. The suspect, who was in possession of more stolen items, took the officers to a wooded area on Minot Avenue where a bucket of stolen tools was located.

After further investigation, it was determined that several cars had been entered on Minot Avenue, Great Neck Road, and

Penny Lane, with property taken from them. The 25-year-old homeless suspect will not yet be identified as the investigation is ongoing, with potentially more charges forthcoming.

At this time, the male is being charged with five counts of receiving stolen property under \$1,200, and one count of receiving stolen property over \$1,200.

Sergeant Kevin Reilly and Officer Lorenzo Grosso assisted in the investigation.

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## **Dominican national previously deported sentenced for Social Security fraud and theft in Massachusetts**

A Dominican national was sentenced this week in federal court in Boston for Social Security fraud and theft of government money.

Jesus Barbosa Pimentel, 56, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Denise J. Casper to 18 months in prison and two years of supervised release. He was also ordered to pay \$47,762 in restitution and will face deportation proceedings. In September 2020, Barbosa Pimentel pleaded guilty to one count of unlawful reentry, one count of false representation of a Social Security number and two counts of theft of government money. He was arrested and charged in June 2019.

On Oct. 7, 2015, Barbosa Pimentel, who was deported from the

United States in 1998, applied for a Massachusetts identification card using the name and Social Security number of a U.S. citizen. Based on the application, Barbosa Pimentel was issued an identification card in the name of the U.S. citizen. Barbosa Pimentel also used that name and Social Security number to receive Section 8 housing assistance and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, formerly known as Food Stamps. He fraudulently received \$32,352 in Section 8 benefits over more than six years, and \$15,409 in SNAP benefits over 10 years.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling; David Magdycz, Acting Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations in Boston; Phillip Coyne, Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Inspector General; Tonya Perkins, Acting Special Agent in Charge of the Social Security Administration, Office of Inspector General, Office of Investigations, Boston Field Division; Christina Scaringi, Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General, Northeast Regional Office; Michael Mikulka, Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Inspector General, Office of Investigations; Jonathan Davidson, Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Department of State, Diplomatic Security Service, Boston Field Office; Joseph W. Cronin, Inspector in Charge of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service; Colonel Christopher Mason, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police; and Massachusetts State Auditor Suzanne M. Bump made the announcement. Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Karen Burzycki of Lelling's Major Crimes Unit prosecuted the case.

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# **Boston Police Department release support services for victims of domestic violence as holidays approach**

**THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:**

As we enter this holiday season, community members continue to be encouraged to remain at home in attempts to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus.

The Boston Police Department recognizes, however, that COVID-19 is having an impact on families in our community and the fact that some may find themselves confined with an abuser as a result.

During this untraditional season, sharing the upcoming holidays in the absence of certain friends or family members could lead to isolation for some of those in our City, removing a potential opportunity for victims to share their story with others and make their voices heard. Make no mistake, you are not alone and no one deserves to be abused. To those in need of help, there are resources available to you. Please reach out if you, or someone you know, is in need of help or safety planning.

As always, in the case of an emergency, CALL 9-1-1.

Community members wanting to report any case of domestic violence, that is not occurring at the moment, may do so anonymously by calling the CrimeStoppers Tip Line at 1 (800) 494-TIPS or by texting the word 'TIP' to CRIME (27463). The Boston Police Department will stringently guard and protect the identities of all those who wish to aid or help any victim of domestic violence in an anonymous manner.

Listed below are several domestic violence programs available in the Boston area.

Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence

Association of Haitian Women in Boston/ Asosiyasyon Fanm Ayisyen nan Boston (AFAB)

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC)

Casa Myrna Vasquez

Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers (MAPS)

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**Deceased body located in  
Florida presumed to be**

# missing Massachusetts teen

A deceased body, presumed to be that of 18-year-old Jalajhia Finklea, was located around noon today in Fellsmere, Florida, Bristol County District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn III announced.

As a result of further investigation into the recent disappearance of Ms. Finklea, Massachusetts State Police detectives assigned to District Attorney Quinn's office—working in conjunction with New Bedford Police detectives—developed more information on her potential whereabouts. That information was shared with the US Marshalls and local law enforcement officials in Florida. As a result of that information, Florida law enforcement officials today found a deceased female body in a field off of Route 95 in Fellsmere, Florida.

Although the deceased is presumed to be Ms. Finklea, a positive identification has yet to be made. An autopsy will be conducted in Florida to positively identify the deceased and to determine cause and manner of death, which is believed to be homicide. Once autopsy results are completed, our office will send out a follow up release.

The 37-year-old Florida man wanted in connection with the disappearance of Ms. Finklea, who was last seen getting into his vehicle in New Bedford, died in Crestview, Florida on November 5 while US Marshall's were attempting to take him into custody.

New Bedford Police, working in conjunction with Massachusetts State Police detectives assigned to the Bristol County District Attorney's office, have been investigating the disappearance of Jalajhia Finklea since shortly after she went missing on October 20th.

Ms. Finklea was last seen in New Bedford getting into the Luis

Zaragoza's vehicle, which investigators learned he recently rented from Logan Airport in Boston. Zaragoza is also known to go by the alias, Luis Barbosa or Luis Barboza.

As a result of the ongoing investigation into this matter, police learned Ms. Finklea's cell phone was last used to call the suspect shortly before she got into his vehicle. Further investigation determined that the Zaragoza turned off his own cell phone minutes after Ms. Finklea got into his rented vehicle.

During the course of the investigation, police were able to locate Ms. Finklea's discarded cell phone on Route 140 in New Bedford, approximately five miles away from where she first entered into the suspect's vehicle.

Police actively attempted to locate her and the suspect ever since. As a result of those efforts, police determined the suspect had left the state and traveled south along the eastern seaboard to Florida. The suspect then travelled to Texas before driving back to Florida. Police have been able to locate surveillance footage from some of the places the suspect travelled to during the course of two weeks, but none of the surveillance shows Ms. Finklea.

As police here in Massachusetts began to obtain more information about the suspect and his travels, the US Marshal's were contacted to assist in the attempt to locate him and Ms. Finklea.

The US Marshal's were able to successfully locate the suspect on the night of November 4, and began surveilling him. As the search for Ms. Finklea continued, police here in Massachusetts sought and obtained an arrest warrant for the suspect, charging him with kidnapping and larceny of a motor vehicle.

On November 5, US Marshal's and an assisting Okaloosa County Sheriff's deputy attempted to arrest the suspect at a McDonald's parking lot in Crestview, Florida. The suspect, who

was armed with a handgun, died during a confrontation with police.

The investigation into the shooting is being conducted by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. All requests for information regarding that incident should be made to officials in Florida.

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## **Massachusetts State Police identifies suspect in shooting of trooper; and adds him to “Most Wanted” list**

“We are seeking ANDRE STERLING, 35, for the shooting of our Trooper last Friday night.

Please take time to view this wanted poster and contact us at 1-800-KAPTURE (1-800-527-8873) if you have any information about him or his whereabouts.” -Massachusetts State Police.”-  
Massachusetts State Police.



# MOST WANTED

**ANDRE K. STERLING**



WANTED FOR:

**Armed Assault W/ Intent to Murder  
Possession of Firearm  
A&B With Firearm**

DOB:.....10-02-1985  
Height:.....5'11"  
Weight:.....175 lbs.  
Hair:.....Black  
Eyes:.....Brown  
Race:.....Black  
F.B.I.#:.....332373D2  
Marks:.....Scar Left Hand

On Friday, November 20, 2020, at approximately 11:36PM, a Massachusetts State Police Trooper was shot during a traffic stop on Camp Street in Hyannis, MA. The ensuing investigation spearheaded by the Cape & Islands State Police Detective Unit identified Andre K. STERLING as the alleged shooter. As a result, STERLING faces charges out of Barnstable District Court for Armed Assault With Intent to Murder, Possession of a Firearm, Assault & Battery With a Firearm, Larceny of a Motor Vehicle and Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle with full extradition authorized. STERLING has 2 additional Massachusetts warrants for charges to include Identity Fraud, A&B on a Police Officer, Fail to Stop for Police and related. He further is wanted out of the state of Wyoming for Narcotics charges. STERLING is a native of Jamaica and is reported to have a scar on his left hand. The weapon used in the shooting of the Trooper has not been recovered and STERLING should be considered Armed and Dangerous.

**Massachusetts State Police: Violent Fugitive Apprehension Section  
1-800-KAPTURE (1-800-527-8873)**

**"HE ESCAPES WHO IS NOT PURSUED" - SOPHOCLES**

*Massachusetts State Police photo.*