

# Massachusetts State Police arrest one for domestic incident in breakdown lane

At approximately 10:25 PM Tuesday Troopers from the State Police-Foxboro Barracks responded to a pedestrian struck by a motor vehicle on Route 95 northbound, prior to the Route 93 exit, in Canton. Troopers arriving on scene found a female victim with serious injuries.

Investigation indicates that the incident was a domestic assault that involved a man and the female victim standing outside their Ford Focus in the breakdown lane. At one point in the incident, the male re-entered the vehicle and began to drive. As he did so he struck the female.

The victim, a 35-year-old New Hampshire woman, was transported by Canton EMS to Boston Medical Center. Her injuries are not believed to be life-threatening at this time.

The operator, who remained on scene, was arrested by Troopers and transported to State Police-Foxboro, where he was booked on the following charges:

1. Assault and battery on a family or household member;
2. Assault and battery with a dangerous weapon;
3. Violation of abuse prevention order; Intimidation of a witness;
4. OUI-Liquor 2nd offense;
5. Negligent operation of a motor vehicle;
6. Unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

He is expected to be arraigned today in Stoughton District Court.

His name is not being released in adherence to a state law

that prohibits police from identifying defendants in domestic arrests in order to protect the privacy of their victims. He is identified here only as a 28-year-old New Hampshire man.

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## **Two New Bedford men arrested for trafficking Fentanyl**

New Bedford police officers report seizing approximately 119 grams of fentanyl, a loaded 45 caliber handgun, and \$4,240 at 8 Monroe Drive on Oct. 22.

As a result of a search warrant, 33-year old Marquise Dwayne Thompson of 8 Monroe Drive was charged with drug trafficking and conspiracy and 25-year old David Acosta of 109 Ashley Blvd., was charged with drug trafficking, conspiracy, and firearms offenses. Detective Lavar Gilbert investigated the case.

If you have any information on criminal activity in your community, the New Bedford Police Dept. wants to hear from you. You can leave an anonymous tip on our voicemail at (508) 991-6300 Ext. 1.

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## **Boston Police Department investigating second mailbox**

# fire

About 5:45pm on Monday, October 26, 2020 officers assigned to District D-4 (South End) responded to 587 Boylston Street to assist the Boston Fire Investigation Unit with a report of damaged mail.

The officers were informed that a mail carrier discovered mail that had been damaged by fire, inside of a United States Postal Service mailbox. The mailbox was last emptied around 4:00pm on Saturday, October 24, 2020, with no signs of damage. The charred mail was discovered by the mail carrier during a 4:00pm pick up today. United States Postal Inspector took custody of both the damaged mail and the mailbox.

The Boston Police Department is actively reviewing the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident and is asking anyone with information relative to this investigation to contact the Boston Fire Investigation Unit at (617) 343-3324.

Community members wishing to assist this investigation anonymously can do so 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 assist this investigation in an anonymous manner.

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## Massachusetts State Trooper arrests two men for firearm,

# narcotics offenses

At approximately 1 a.m. yesterday Trooper Stephen Connor, assigned to State Police-Newbury, was patrolling Route 95 in Salisbury. As he was northbound prior to Exit 60 he observed a red Jeep Grand Cherokee make several erratic marked lanes violations. He activated his emergency lights and stopped the vehicle.

Upon the Jeep coming to a full stop Trooper Connor approached it and identified the driver as MARQUS MITCHELL, 37, of Peabody. It was quickly learned that MARQUS MITCHELL had a revoked driver's license along with a felony warrant for his arrest for multiple firearms and narcotics charges and assault and battery on a police officer. Trooper Daniel Henderson arrived on scene to assist placing MARQUS MITCHELL under arrest.

The passenger, identified as KHALID MITCHELL, 26, of Brockton, was removed to allow for an inventory of the vehicle's contents prior to it being towed from the scene. Trooper Connor quickly located a loaded Mossberg 9mm pistol, an electronic query of the firearm's serial number revealed it was reported stolen in July. Neither man possessed a license to carry firearms.

KHALID MITHCELL was searched and Troopers located several pills and a powdery substance believed to be Ecstasy. He was placed under arrest as well. They were transported to the Newbury Barracks where they were booked. A bail commissioner was contacted and set bail at \$100,000 for both men. They were arraigned at Newburyport District Court on the following offenses.

## **MARQUS MITCHELL:**

Carrying a Loaded Firearm;  
Receiving Stolen Property (firearm);

Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Revoked License; and  
Marked Lanes Violation.

## **KHALID MITCHELL**

Carrying a Loaded Firearm;  
Possession of a Class B Drug;  
Receiving Stolen Property (firearm); and  
Marked Lanes Violation.

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# **New Bedford cocaine trafficker sentenced to prison**

A 31-year-old New Bedford cocaine trafficker with a lengthy record of criminal convictions was sentenced to serve three to five years in state prison last week, Bristol County District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn III announced.

Donald Venerable pleaded guilty on October 21 in Fall River Superior Court to indictments charging him with trafficking cocaine in excess of 18 grams, assault and battery on a police officer, and assault and battery on a police officer with attempt to disarm.

On August 12, 2019, New Bedford Police executed a search warrant for the second floor apartment on 187 Division Street in New Bedford. The defendant was the target of that search warrant and was on court ordered GPS at the time, verifying his location and connection to the target apartment.

During the search of the apartment, police located five bags of cocaine weighing 42.9 grams in a kitchen drawer. Two of

those bags were packaged in a torn Stop and Shop bag. Police also located two digital scales, a torn Stop and Shop grocery bag consistent with the packaging of the two bags of cocaine, a cutting agent, \$1,865 in cash and a stun gun.

When police located the cocaine, the defendant, while handcuffed, lunged at and pushed two detectives into a couch, causing them to lose their balance and fall. The defendant appeared intoxicated and continually tried fighting with police. After calming down for a period, the defendant then struggled with and grabbed another detective's firearm while handcuffed behind his back.

At the time of his arrest, the defendant had been free from jail for just 15 days. He had recently been released after being convicted of assault and battery by discharge of a firearm.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Matthew Lopes and the prison sentence was imposed by Judge Raffi Yessayan.

"Only 15 days after being placed on probation for assault and firearms charges, the defendant is caught trafficking in cocaine. The defendant had no intention of obeying the law and is a danger to the community. He belongs off the street to protect the public," District Attorney Quinn said.

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# **Massachusetts election officials increase security after ballot drop box fire**

By Katie Lannan

State House News Service

Boston and federal authorities are investigating after a fire was set in a ballot drop box in Copley Square early Sunday morning, and Secretary of State William Galvin has directed all local election officials to boost security around ballot boxes.

A directive Galvin issued to local election officials Sunday encourages them to monitor early-voting drop boxes with video surveillance, close or relocate the boxes in the late evening to prevent overnight tampering, relocate boxes to entryways or lobbies of city or town halls, and increase the frequency of ballot collections, with a “clear chain of custody” for ballots retrieved from the boxes.

For drop boxes located in areas not otherwise under



surveillance, the directive “strongly encourages” that a security detail “guard the drop box when it cannot be monitored by election officials or other municipal officers.”

The Boston Police Department said officers were called to a scene outside the Boston Public Library on Boylston Street around 4 a.m. Sunday where firefighters were “tending to smoke coming from an early voting ballot box.” Crews extinguished the fire by filling the drop box with water.

Photos released by the police department show a man at the box, and the police department is asking the public’s help in identifying him as part of an arson investigation. Anyone with information can contact the Boston Fire Department Fire Investigation Unit at (617) 343-3324 or the anonymous CrimeStoppers Tip Line at 1 (800) 494-TIPS.

According to Galvin’s office, the Boston Elections Department had last emptied the box at 2:29 p.m. Saturday, and 122 ballots were inside when it was emptied Sunday morning after the fire. Eighty-seven were legible enough to be processed. The city’s election department asked that anyone who dropped their ballot off outside the library between 2:30 p.m. Saturday and 4 a.m. Sunday to call (617) 635-2211 to check the status of their ballot, which can also be done at [www.trackmyballotma.com](http://www.trackmyballotma.com).

City election officials will mail new ballots to the 35 affected voters, Galvin said, and original ballots “will be hand-counted to the extent possible” for affected voters who do not submit new ballots.

Galvin reported the incident to U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling’s office and asked that the FBI investigate the apparent “deliberate attack,” according to the secretary’s office.

“What happened in the early hours of this morning to the ballot drop box in Copley Square is a disgrace to democracy, a disrespect to the voters fulfilling their civic duty, and a

crime,” Galvin and Boston Mayor Martin Walsh said in a joint statement, which also asked voters “not to be intimidated by this bad act, and remain committed to making their voices heard in this and every election.”

Lelling and FBI special agent in charge Joseph Bonavolonta said in a joint statement that federal officials are investigating “the attempted ballot box arson,” and that it would be a top priority of their offices over the next several weeks “to help maintain the integrity of the election process in Massachusetts by aggressively enforcing federal election laws.”

“Voters in Massachusetts can feel confident in the success of the information sharing protocols that we have established with our local, state and federal election security partners in advance of the 2020 election,” they said. “We remain fully committed to working with these partners to protect our communities as Americans exercise their right to vote. Help from the public is also vital to our effort. We encourage members of the public to remain vigilant and immediately report any suspicious, election-related activity to us.”

## **Arrest Made**

A 39-year-old Boston resident is expected to be arraigned in municipal court on a charge of willful and malicious burning in connection with a Sunday morning ballot box fire, police said. The fire, set in a ballot drop box outside the main branch of the Boston Public Library, prompted Secretary of State William Galvin, the state’s elections overseer, to direct local officials to announced Monday that members of the fire investigation unit had identified Worldy Armand as a suspect.

Shortly before 11 p.m. on Sunday, officers assigned to a drug control unit saw a man, Armand, who matched the fire suspect’s description while they were patrolling the Copley Square area,

according to the police department. Police said they determined he had an active warrant out of Ipswich District Court for receiving stolen property and took him into custody.

Of the 122 ballots that were removed from the box after the fire, 87 were still legible enough to be processed, according to Galvin's office, and the Boston Elections Department plans to mail new ballots to the other 35 voters.

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## **Massachusetts State Police investigating accident that kills motorcyclist**

At 3:25 p.m. Thursday Massachusetts State Troopers assigned to State Police-Northampton responded to a crash on Main Road in Westhampton involving a motorcycle and a pickup truck.

Preliminary investigation indicates that a 2010 Toyota Tacoma, operated by a 77-year-old Northampton man, was traveling westbound on Main Road approaching a 1987 Harley-Davidson motorcycle, operated by David Foster, 57, of Huntington, traveling eastbound. The Toyota made a turn into the path of the motorcycle causing a collision.

Foster suffered serious injuries in the crash and was transported to Baystate Hospital where he later succumbed to his injuries.

The exact facts and circumstances of the crash, including charges for the operator of the Toyota Tacoma, remain under investigation by State Police-Northampton, the State Police Crime Scene Services Section, the State Police Collision

Analysis and Reconstruction Section, and the Hampshire County State Police Detective Unit.

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## **Lakeville Police Department investigation leads to arrest and seizure of cash and narcotics**

On Wednesday October 21, 2020, at approximately 6pm, Lakeville Officers Robert Schiffer and Weston Fazzino concluded a 2-month long narcotics investigation with the execution of a search warrant at 1 Freetown Street. Officers located \$4,400 cash and various prescription pills including Oxycodone.

Ryan Reynolds, 39, was arrested at the scene and charged with the following:

- Possession of a class B substance (Oxycodone)
- Possession of a class B substance (Oxycodone) with intent to distribute
- 2 counts Possession of a class E substance

Reynolds will be arraigned in Wareham District Court on Thursday. Lt. Ryan Maltais, Sgt. Michael Dwyer, Sgt. Emily Melo, Off. Andy Sederquist, Off. Tom Norcross, and Freetown K9 Off. Tom Long assisted at the scene.

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# **UPDATE: Massachusetts State Police seek public's help in alleged child abduction**

"Anthony has been located safe and sound. Thank you all for sharing. Thank you to Woburn Police for stopping the suspect vehicle on Main Street at Kirby Street."

You can read the earlier article [here](#)