

# **New Bedford Fire Department partners with American Red Cross to assist with Home Fire campaign**

"The New Bedford Fire Department is proud to announce we are partnering with the American Red Cross of Massachusetts to assist them with their Home Fire Campaign.

Residents of the City of New Bedford can call 1(800)564-1234 if you don't have any or an inadequate number of smoke or carbon monoxide alarms installed in your home. Once an appointment is scheduled, members of the New Bedford Fire Department or American Red Cross will install up to three smoke or carbon monoxide alarms in your home for free.

The NBFD responded to eight structure fires in November along with two structure fires in the early days of December. These fires have left approximately fifty residents displaced through the holiday season. Working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are the best way to protect your family, pets, and belongings from smoke or fire. Many of the residents who lived in these buildings were able to escape because of working smoke alarms.

Please watch the video or click on the link here for further information."-New Bedford Fire Department.

**Video by the New Bedford Fire Department:**

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# **For 5th year in a row, Massachusetts man donates hand-made toys for “Toys For Tots”**

“For the 5th year in a row William Greenwood and his wife Helen have made the drive to GHQ to donate Mr. Greenwood’s hand-made toys.

He explained that he normally makes toys for his grandchildren but has come to love crafting wooden toys for the Toys for Tots cause.

If you are interested in donating toys, make sure you find your nearest drop-off location here.”-Massachusetts State Police.



*Massachusetts State Police photo.*

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## **Boston Police Department announces the sudden passing of active-duty K-9 “Tyson”**

“The Boston Police Department regrets to announce the sudden passing of active-duty BPD K-9 Tyson.

Tyson was only six years old at the time of his passing and

had served the City of Boston for five years as a dual-purpose Patrol and Explosive Detection K-9. Tyson was responsible for numerous high priority arrests, recovered firearms and protective sweeps during his time with the BPD, having a direct impact on the safety of our great city.

Our thoughts go out to his handler at this difficult time, as well as his wife and children, who had come to know Tyson as a protector and a member of their family.” -Boston Police Department.



*Boston Police Department photo.*

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# **New Bedford Police respond to late-night call, arrest three alleged catalytic converter thieves**

"New Bedford patrol officers have brought charges forward on three individuals suspected of catalytic converter theft following a late-night call.

On December 3rd, shortly after midnight, north-end patrol officers responded to 90 Riverside Ave. on reports of a male looking into and under automobiles with a flashlight.

Upon arrival, an auto containing three occupants was located in the parking lot. Seated inside the vehicle was Mr. LUIS MIGUEL SANTIAGO, 24, of 1387 Pleasant St. SANTIAGO matched the description of the suspect who had been looking under vehicles.

Another occupant, Mr. CRISTIAN OMAR RESTO ALEJANDRO, 25, of 492 N. Front St., was found to have an active warrant for his arrest. The operator of the vehicle was identified as Ms. QUIRIAM YEILEEN RESTO ALEJANDRO, 22, of 276 Dartmouth St.

After searching the vehicle, the officers located a reciprocating saw with a built-in flashlight. This tool can effectively be used to remove catalytic converters from vehicles in the dark. Upon further investigation, a parked auto was located a very short distance away that had damage to its catalytic converter.

LUIS and CRISTIAN were both taken into custody, and charges

will be sought on QUIRIAM for her role in the incident.

All three parties are being charged with possession of the burglarious tool (the saw) and stealing parts from a motor vehicle.

“The theft of catalytic converters can be frustrating for police to deal with given the fact that the suspects normally move very quickly under the cover of darkness. It takes witnesses who are willing to call us when they see something suspicious, alert patrol officers who respond quickly, and even a little bit of luck. We were fortunate in this instance to have all three. I’m very happy to see these suspects charged.” said Chief Paul Oliveira.

The investigating patrol officer was Taylor Souza.

If you have any information on criminal activity in your neighborhood, 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. You can also leave a tip at our website, [www.newbedfordpd.com](http://www.newbedfordpd.com)” - New Bedford Police Department.

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## **Red Bull can leads to Massachusetts man being charged with 14 Bank Robberies in New England**

“TAYLOR DZICZEK, 30, of Chicopee, Massachusetts, was arrested today on federal criminal complaint charging him with robbing

a Connecticut bank earlier this year. As alleged in the complaint, Dziczek is also a suspect in several additional bank robberies that have occurred in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire since September 2021.

Today's announcement was made by U.S. Attorney Vanessa Roberts Avery, Special Agent in Charge David Sundberg of the FBI's New Haven Division, Special Agent in Charge Joseph R. Bonavolonta of the FBI's Boston Division, and Special Agent in Charge Janeen DiGuseppi of the FBI's Albany Division.

Dziczek appeared today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Robert A. Richardson in Hartford and was ordered detained.

As alleged in the complaint, the FBI and state and local law enforcement have been investigating 14 robberies and one attempted robbery of banks and credit unions in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont and New Hampshire, which were committed by what appears to be the same individual, that occurred between September 2021 and August 2022. During the investigation, Dziczek was identified as a suspect who robbed the Peoples United Bank, located at 117 East Street in Plainville, Connecticut, on May 26, 2022. On that date, Dziczek entered the bank, approached the teller counter and gave the teller a note stating words to the effect of, "I have a gun. Don't call 911. Don't set off any alarms." When the teller stated she did not have any more money, Dziczek pulled what appeared to be a black firearm from the front pocket of his sweatshirt and made additional statements including "Give me all the money," "I have a gun," and "Don't be a hero."

It is alleged that Dziczek removed some of the paper money wrappers from the money he received from the teller and discarded them at the bank before he fled the scene. Plainville Police detectives collected the discarded money wrappers as evidence.

It is further alleged that on October 21, 2022, FBI special



agents surveilled Dziczek while he was in the MGM Casino in Springfield, Massachusetts, and retrieved a Red Bull energy drink can with a black straw from which Dziczek was observed drinking. Laboratory analysis connected DNA found on the black straw to DNA found on discarded money wrappers from the Plainville bank robbery.

The charge of bank robbery carries a maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years.

U.S. Attorney Avery stressed that a criminal complaint is not evidence of guilt. Charges are only allegations, and a defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

This ongoing investigation is being conducted by the FBI New Haven Division's Violent Crimes Task Force, FBI Boston Division, FBI Albany Division, Connecticut State Police, Massachusetts State Police, Athol (Mass.) Police Department, Avon (Conn.) Police Department, Brattleboro (Vt.) Police Department, Chicopee (Mass.) Police Department, East Windsor (Conn.) Police Department, Enfield (Conn.) Police Department, Greenfield (Mass.) Police Department, Keene (N.H.) Police Department, Meriden (Conn.) Police Department, Montague (Mass.) Police Department, Nashua (N.H.) Police Department, Plainville (Conn.) Police Department, Somers (Conn.) Police Department, and Springfield (Mass.) Police Department. The Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Scientific Services has provided valuable assistance to the investigation.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Daniel E. Cummings, Stephanie T. Levick and Nancy V. Gifford. U.S. Attorney Avery thanked the U.S. Attorney's Offices for the Districts of Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire for its close cooperation in investigating and prosecuting this matter." Connecticut Department of Justice.



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# **Rochester Fire Department dispatched to car versus tree accident on Snipatuit Rd.**

“The Rochester Fire Department was dispatched to Snipatuit Rd for a car versus tree.

The operator of the vehicle was out of the vehicle and waiting for responders to arrive. Seatbelt use again can be credited for the minor injuries that resulted.

The operator was transported to the hospital for evaluation of minor injuries.” -Rochester Fire Department.



*Rochester Fire Department photo.*



*Rochester Fire Department photo.*

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## **New Bedford Fire Department battles early morning blaze near Gomes School; power outages**

At approximately 4:30am, Saturday morning, New Bedford EMS, Fire, and Police Departments responded to multiple reports of a fire on South Second Street across from the Gomes Elementary School.

Upon arrival, responders encountered a triple-decker tenement



completely engulfed in flames. Crews began to battle the blaze to prevent the fire from spreading to nearby homes and structures.

Within minutes the entire tenement was destroyed and flattened into a pile of rubble, leaving only fragments of the foundation walls.

This is a developing story, and we'll update this article as reports of casualties, number of occupants, injuries, cause, how many displaced. and other information throughout the day.

**Videos and photos by Carlos Pimental Felix:**



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# Falmouth Fire and Police Department respond to airplane crash at airpark

At approximately, 3:00pm Friday, December 2, Falmouth EMS, Fire, and Police Departments responded to reports of an airplane crash at the Falmouth Airpark located off Fresh Pond Road.

Upon arrival, responders found a fixed-wing single-engine Mooney M20J with two occupants. The fuselage, debris, and damaged metal from other parts of the plane had wrapped around both occupants which firefighters needed to remove with care to extract them.

Both are being treated for life-threatening injuries.

The online flight records show the plane departed Westfield/Springfield airport just after 2:20 p.m. before crashing at the airpark sometime just after 3 p.m.



*Falmouth Fire Department photo.*



*Falmouth Fire Department photo.*



*Falmouth Fire Department photo.*

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# **Texas man charged with threatening doctor affiliated with LGBTQIA+ Health Education Center**

"A Texas man was arrested and charged today in connection with threatening a Boston doctor providing care to members of the transgender community.

Matthew Jordan Lindner, 38, of Comfort, Texas, was charged with one count of transmitting interstate threats. Lindner was arrested this morning and will make an initial appearance in the Western District of Texas this afternoon. He will appear in federal court in Boston at a later date.

"Death threats instill fear and terror in their targeted audiences. The conduct alleged here is not protected free speech. The words used here do not amount to someone simply



expressing their discontent or engaging in a heated debate. Mr. Lindner's alleged conduct – a death threat – is based on falsehoods and amounts to an act of workplace violence.

The victim, a Doctor caring for gender nonconforming and transgendered patients, should be able to engage in this meaningful and necessary work without fear of physical harm or death. And although the Doctor is clearly a victim, Mr. Lindner's threat is rooted in a hatred of the LGBTQIA+ community and the families, friends and people that love and support them. They are victims too," said United States Attorney Rachael S. Rollins. "There used to be a respite and safe haven from harm or attack in our schools, churches, hospitals and courthouses.

We used to extend that decency and respect to even our fiercest adversaries. Sadly, those days appear to be gone. The Department of Justice has pledged to protect the rights of the gender nonconforming and transgendered community, which includes the health care providers who render care and support. This office will vigorously investigate and prosecute individuals who engaged in hate crimes, including threats. Today's charges show that we will scour the country to ensure the safety and wellbeing of people in Massachusetts. Hate has no place here."

"Today, the FBI arrested Matthew Lindner for allegedly harassing and threatening to kill a physician at the Fenway Institute solely because she was caring for gender nonconforming children. While everyone has a right to express their opinion, they don't have a right to use or threaten violence against individuals who do not share their same set of beliefs," said Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division.

"No one should have to live in fear of violence because of who they are, what kind of work they do, where they are from, or

what they believe. This case is unfortunately one of many others that illustrates FBI Boston's commitment to thwarting potential violent incidents motivated by hate and bias and holding the individuals behind them accountable."

According to the charging documents, in August 2022, inaccurate information spread online regarding procedures at Boston Children's Hospital (BCH) for the transgender community. It is alleged that on Aug. 31, 2022, Lindner called the Boston-based National LGBTQIA+ Health Education Center and left a threatening voicemail targeting one of the Center's affiliated doctors. In that voicemail, Lindner allegedly said: "You sick motherf\*\*\*\*\*s, you're all gonna burn. There's a group of people on their way to handle [victim]. You signed your own warrant, [victim]. Castrating our children. You've woken up enough people. And upset enough of us. And you signed your own ticket. Sleep well, you f\*\*\*\*\*, c\*\*\*."

In August 2022, U.S. Attorney Rollins announced the creation of the "End Hate Now" hotline – 1-83-END-H8-NOW (1-833-634-8669) – for reporting hate-based incidents or potential criminal activity. Massachusetts residents and visitors are encouraged to call the hotline to report concerning or troubling incidents of hate, potential hate crimes, or concerns regarding individuals believed to be espousing the hate-filled views or actions we learn of far too often in the wake of mass shootings and/or acts of hate-based violent extremism. Callers are encouraged to leave their contact information but may remain anonymous. At this time, the hotline is available in English, Spanish, Cantonese and French.

The charge of transmitting interstate threats provides for a sentence of up to five years in prison, up to three years 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 statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

U.S. Attorney Rollins and FBI SAC Bonavolonta made the announcement today. Assistant U.S. Attorney Brian A. Fogerty of Rollins' Human Trafficking & Civil Rights Unit is prosecuting the case.

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

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## **New Bedford Fire Department responds to 2-alarm tenement fire on Acushnet Avenue**

"Shortly before 4:00pm today, multiple 911 calls were received reporting smoke extending from the fourth floor of a four-story mixed-use commercial/residential building.

Engine 8 was confronted with a large volume of fire on the fourth floor. Ladder 4 performed roof ventilation and a second alarm assignment was called to assist with deploying additional hose lines and conducting primary searches.

No firefighters or civilians were injured. Twelve adults and four children were displaced and are being assisted by the American Red Cross and NB Emergency Management.

The cause of the fire is being investigated by the NBFD Fire Investigation Unit and the State Fire Marshals Office. NBPD, NBEMS, and the Providence Canteen provided assistance on scene. Mutual aid station coverage was provided by the

Acushnet Fire Department.” -New Bedford Fire Department.

**All Photos by Manny Fernandes and the New Bedford Fire Department:**



**Videos by Carlos Pimental Felix:**

**Video by Carlos Sam:**