

Massachusetts residents charged in Capitol breach; FBI seek's public's help in identifying others

A Massachusetts man and woman were arrested today and charged in connection with unlawfully entering the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021.

Mark Sahady, 46, of Malden, Mass. and Suzanne Ianni, 59, of Natick, Mass., were each charged by criminal complaint with one count of entering or remaining in a restricted building or grounds without lawful authority and one count of disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds. Sahady and Ianni will make their initial appearances in U.S. District Court in Boston this afternoon.

According to the criminal complaint, Sahady is the vice president of an organization called "Super Happy Fun America," which allegedly purports to advocate for the "straight community." Beginning on approximately Nov. 16, 2020, Sahady tweeted statements exhibiting a belief that the presidential election was stolen, and that people need to gather in D.C. on January 6, 2021 to respond. Photos posted on a Twitter account connected to Super Happy Fun America show Sahady on a bus with other individuals with the caption, "Bus 1 of 11 coming to Washington DC. See you there!"

According to the criminal complaint, Ianni is also involved with "Super Happy Fun America." The complaint alleges that Ianni organized buses for Super Fun Happy America to transport individuals to Washington D.C. for the January 6, 2021 event. Ianni is pictured alongside Sahady in the bus photo on Twitter. Following the Capitol breach, the public and media

posted photos and identified people who were at the riot and entered the Capitol. Photographs show Sahady and Ianni standing next to each other inside the U.S. Capitol during the breach.

The information contained in the charging documents are merely allegations. The defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Information on charges regarding violence at the Capitol, including defendants' names, charges, case status, and court case numbers, is available at <https://www.justice.gov/opa/investigations-regarding-violence-capitol>.

The charge of entering or remaining in a restricted building or grounds without lawful authority provides for a sentence of up to one year in prison, one year of supervised release and a fine of up to \$100,000. The charge of disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds provides for a sentence of up to six months in prison, one year of supervised release and a fine of up to \$5,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

These cases are being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia and the Counterterrorism Section of the DOJ's National Security Division, with assistance from the U.S. Attorney's Office of Massachusetts.

The case are being investigated by the FBI's Washington Field Office with assistance from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Field Division.

The ATF and FBI continue to urge the public to report suspected use of explosive devices, or violent, destructive acts associated with the recent unrest. Anyone with information can call 1-888-ATF-TIPS (1-888-283-8477), email ATFTips@atf.gov or submit information anonymously via

ReportIt.com.

The FBI is looking for individuals who may have incited or promoted violence of any kind. Anyone with digital material or tips can call 1-800-CALL-FBI (800-225-5324) or submit images or videos at fbi.gov/USCapitol.

New Bedford Member of the Latin Kings Sentenced for Being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm

A member of the New Bedford Chapter of the Almighty Latin King and Queen Nation was sentenced today for being a felon in possession of a firearm as a result of a federal investigation into a shooting on April 19, 2020, in New Bedford.

Alexander Pizarro, a/k/a "King Tego," 28, was sentenced by U.S. Senior District Court Judge Douglas P. Woodlock to 42 months in prison and three years of supervised release. In September 2020, Pizarro pleaded guilty to one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

On April 19, 2020, police responded to a report of seven shots fired near a residence on Clark Street in New Bedford. During the response, police located a tan and black Taurus 9mm firearm in an alleyway near the residence. Based on information received from a 911 caller, police were directed to an apartment and located Pizarro. After searching his cell phone, investigators located a photograph of Pizarro in the apartment holding what appeared to be the same firearm that

was recovered from Clark Street. This photograph was taken approximately two hours before the shots-fired incident. Through ballistics comparison, the seized firearm was matched to the recovered shell casings from the shooting that evening.

Due to multiple prior convictions, Pizarro is prohibited from possessing firearms. According to court documents, Pizarro was known to investigators to be a member of the New Bedford Chapter of the Latin Kings, and had recently posted multiple pictures holding firearms to his SnapChat account. At the time of the shooting incident, Pizarro was on probation for a 2017 firearms conviction in Rhode Island.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling; Kelly D. Brady, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, New England Field Division; and New Bedford Police Chief Joseph C. Cordeiro made the announcement today. Assistant U.S. Attorney Philip A. Mallard of Lelling's Organized Crime and Gang Unit prosecuted the case.

This case is part of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), a program bringing together all levels of law enforcement and the communities they serve to reduce violent crime and make our neighborhoods safer for everyone. Former Attorney General Sessions reinvigorated PSN in 2017 as part of the Department's renewed focus on targeting violent criminals, directing all U.S. Attorney's Offices to work in partnership with federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement and the local community to develop effective, locally-based strategies to reduce violent crime.

New Bedford regional surge care center for COVID-19 opens

Mayor Jon Mitchell announced the reopening of a Southeastern Massachusetts Regional Care Center in New Bedford for those recovering from COVID-19.

The former nursing home facility, located at 4586 Acushnet Avenue, opened Monday, January 18 as a COVID-19 recovery and care center.



City of New Bedford photo.

The facility is operated by Essex Group Management Corporation's nonprofit Buttonwood Healthcare division, a partnership that began in April with the announcement of the

establishment of two regional care centers in New Bedford.

It is one of two such facilities leased by the City. Earlier this year, the City opened the other of the two facilities, located at 1123 Rockdale Avenue; that care center will remain closed at this time. The Acushnet Avenue site has 123 beds, while the Rockdale Avenue site has 107 beds. The care center will be staffed by physicians and advanced practice nurses who are committed to seeing that patients are cared for and treated.

Earlier this month, Mayor Mitchell announced the City's decision to reopen the facility to assist the region's healthcare system with the recent surge of COVID-19 patients. The facility will house patients who still require medical care, but do not require hospitalization, to ease the burden on local hospitals.

"The reopening of a surge facility in New Bedford will offer an outlet that supports our region's busy hospitals during this resurgence of the virus. Thanks to the work of our City facilities crews and our partners at the Essex Group, the opening of the center will ensure that our health care system can continue to attend to patients during the peak of the pandemic," said Mayor Mitchell.



City of New Bedford photo.

Providence's Roger Williams Zoo's 9-year-old Masai giraffe "Tufani" passes away

"It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Tufani, the beloved 9-year-old Masai giraffe. After showing signs of gastrointestinal complications, the Zoo's animal care staff worked diligently to provide ongoing medical assistance and keep her comfortable.

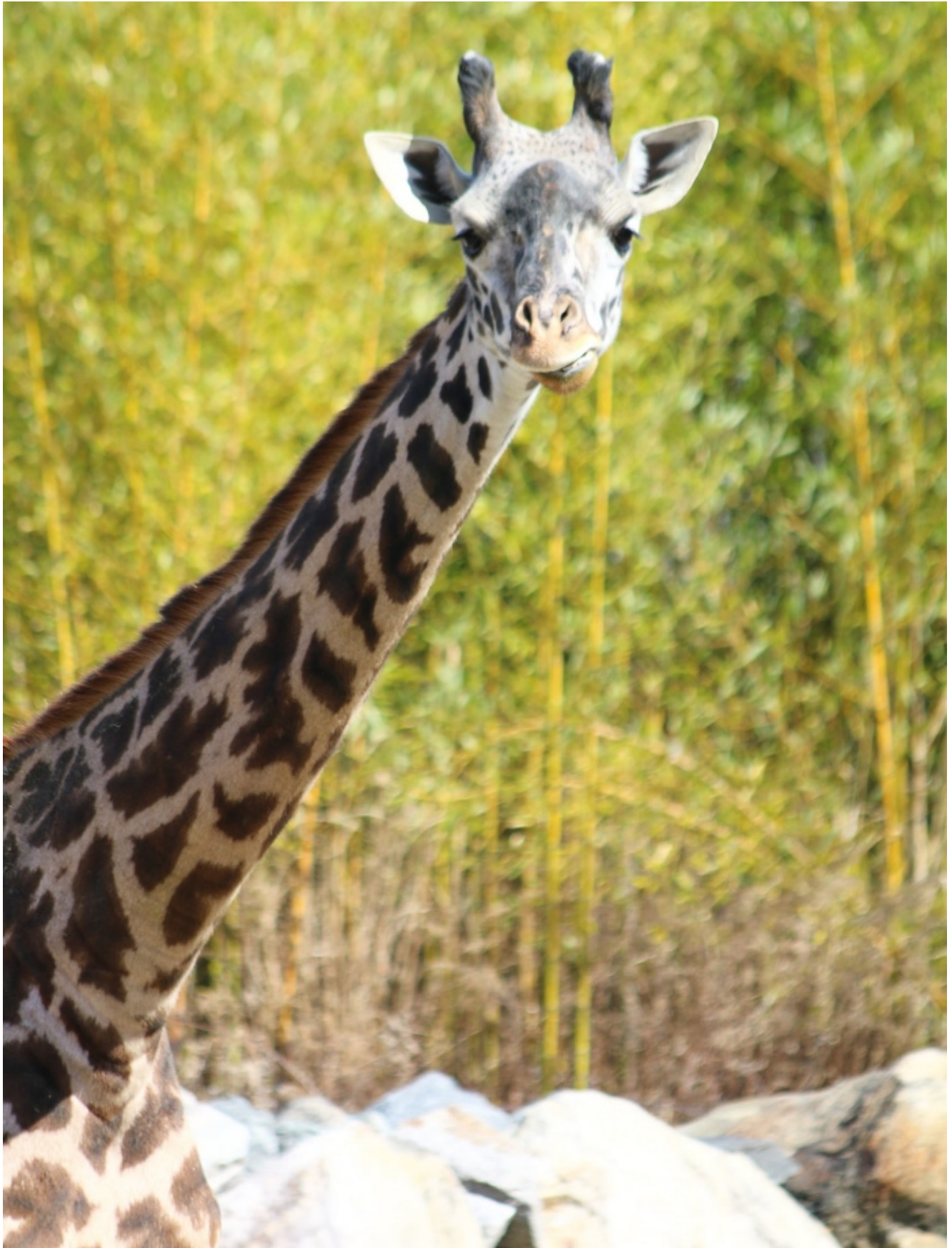
The Zoo brought in numerous veterinary experts to help plan a

course of treatment, but despite all of these efforts, on Thursday, January 14, Tufani passed away.

Tufani joined the Zoo family in August 2014 and was known by her keepers as a spunky goofball. “She had a mischievous, curious nature about her,” said zookeeper Rachael. “She loved to beg for treats and was really just an absolute sweetheart.”

She will always hold a special place in the hearts of her keepers, the Zoo staff, volunteers, and all of the people like you who visited her every day. She will be deeply missed.

We encourage people to share photos and fond memories of Tufani so that her keepers may see your remembrances and kind words. ♥☐”



Roger Williams Park & Zoo photo.

Boston Police Department seeks public's help in hit and run with resulting in serious bodily injury

"BPD Community Alert: Investigators Seeking the Public's Help in Efforts to Locate Motor Vehicle Wanted in Connection to Leaving the Scene of an Accident in Dorchester:

BPD Community Alert: Boston Police Detectives are seeking the public's help to locate the above-pictured motor vehicle in connection to an ongoing investigation into a hit and run which resulted in serious bodily injury. The incident occurred at about 5:18 PM on Sunday January 3, 2021, in the area of 618 Blue Hill Avenue in Dorchester.

The vehicle is believed to be a blue 2019 or 2020 Hyundai Elantra and was last seen traveling on Harvard Street towards Morton Street. The vehicle sustained serious damage to the front driver's side windshield and possibly the front hood and roofline during this incident.

The Boston Police Department is actively investigating the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident. Anyone with information relative to the vehicle pictured is asked to contact BPD Homicide Detectives at (617) 343-4470.

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 help this investigation in an anonymous manner."

Dartmouth police officer Andrew Wheaton retires

“Milestone:

Please join Chief Levesque and the members of the Dartmouth Police Department, as we congratulate Officer Andrew Wheaton on his recent retirement.

Throughout his distinguished career, Officer Wheaton served in numerous capacities on the department, most notably of which was as a firearms instructor.

Enjoy the next chapter in your life Andy. You certainly deserve it!”-Dartmouth Police Department.

New Bedford Fire Department respond to 911 calls for fire at adult active daycare building

“At approximately 9:30 last evening the New Bedford Fire Department began receiving 911 calls reporting a fire in the woods of Welby And Phillips Road.

Upon arrival of fire companies, they found a vacant adult active daycare building located at 107 Welby Road well

involved in fire. Portions of the roof had already collapsed. Engines 5, 7, 8, 9, Ladders 1 and 4, along with Command Units 1 and 2 responded and were able to contain the fire spread to one wing of the structure and limit its spread to the remainder of the building.

The cause of the fire is under investigation by the NBFD Fire Investigation Unit and the State Fire Marshals Office.

One firefighter sustained a minor injury. Crews remained on scene for approximately three hours.

New Bedford Fire Department receives generous donation

“Our staff met up with Mike Reardon from Ocean State Job Lot yesterday to receive a very generous donation of protective masks, hand sanitizer, and sanitizing wipes to be distributed to our first responders.

Keeping our members and community safe is our #1 priority. A special thanks to Mike and to all who made this donation possible!”

Massachusetts man sentenced

to 60 years for child exploitation offenses

A North Adams man was sentenced yesterday in federal court in Springfield to 60 years in prison today for child exploitation offenses.

Anthony Deordio, 46, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Mark G. Mastroianni to 60 years in prison and a lifetime of supervised release. In August 2020, Deordio pleaded guilty to one count of sexual exploitation of a minor, three counts of advertising child pornography, two counts of distribution of child pornography, two counts of transportation of child pornography, one count of receipt of child pornography and one count of possession of child pornography.

In November 2017, Deordio used a minor victim to produce child pornography. The video file he produced was later recovered in a separate jurisdiction, and further investigation led to the identification of Deordio as the perpetrator. He was also convicted of offering to sell child pornography on the internet, distributing child pornography over the internet and receiving and possessing child pornography.

Deordio was previously convicted of possession of child pornography in Massachusetts state court in 2006.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling; Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Field Division; Colonel Christopher Mason, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police; and North Adams Police Chief Jason Wood made the announcement today. Assistant U.S. Attorney Alex J. Grant of Lelling's Springfield Branch Office.

The case is brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In 2006, the Department of Justice created Project Safe

Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from exploitation and abuse. 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 www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

Governor Baker signs 'Laura's Law'

On Friday, Governor Charlie Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito participated in a ceremonial signing of S.2931, An Act to ensure safe patient access to emergency care.

Named in memory of Laura Levis, Governor Baker and Lt. Governor Polito were also joined by Laura's husband, Pete DeMarco, members of her family, and Senator Pat Jehlen.

"I signed 'Laura's Law' to safeguard against future tragedies occurring just steps away from hospital emergency departments," said Governor Baker. "In the wake of her tragic passing, Laura's husband, Pete, undertook an exhaustive effort to honor her legacy and protect others from similar fates. After months of collaboration and hard work with legislators, including Senator Jehlen and Representative Barber, I am proud to sign Laura's Law and celebrate her memory in a meaningful way."

The new law would implement minimum criteria and standards that ensure safe, timely and accessible patient access to the entrances of Massachusetts hospital emergency departments.

These regulations will require that entries must be clearly marked, easily accessible and properly monitored by security when appropriate. Additionally, the Department of Public Health will convene a working group on patient access to hospital emergency rooms or departments to report on and make recommendations to inform these policies. In 2016, Laura Levis died of an asthma attack outside of an area hospital when she was unable to locate an accessible entrance to the emergency room.