

New Bedford Police seize 9 firearms during gang-related investigations

New Bedford Police Department Detectives last week seized a total of nine firearms as a result of ongoing investigations related to gang activity in the city.

On August 26, NBPD Detectives recovered a MasterPiece Arms semi-automatic firearm from a garage at 82 Crapo St. along with several rounds of ammo of different calibers. The firearm and ammunition were reported to be used by a local gang.

Also on August 26, NBPD Detectives seized a Taurus 9mm firearm with ammunition and a magazine at 138 Dean Street, Apt. #1. Known gang leader Ailton Pina was charged with firearms offenses. Pina was found dangerous during a subsequent hearing and was quickly released on \$5,000 bail.

As a result of a traffic stop near Winsor St. and County St. on August 25, NBPD Detectives seized a Glock 26 firearm loaded with 42 rounds of 9mm ammunition firearm with extended clip. As a result, known gang member Pedro Evora, 27, 50 New Plainville Rd., Apt. M77, and Jessica Gomes, 22, 50 New Plainville Rd., Apt. M77, were both arrested and charged with firearms offences.

As a follow-up, Detectives seized two Smith & Wesson firearms, five magazines and boxes of ammunition from Gomes's mother's house at 122 Purchase St. Detectives seized a Sig Sauer P250 firearm and a Chrome Webley 767 .38 caliber revolver along with suboxone strips and a digital scale on August 24 at 106 School Street, #2W. As a result, Antone Mello, 49, 106 School Street, #2W, was charged with firearms and drug possession offenses.

An M&P Shield 9mm handgun, 2-8 round magazines, and 45 rounds of 9mm ammunition has been retrieved in relation to the August 24 shooting at Temple Landing. Separately, a search of the vehicle used to transport one of the victims in that incident produced a Glock 9mm handgun with 7 9mm rounds, drug paraphernalia and \$969.

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.

Bristol County Sheriff's Office K-9 Rony's last day as a working police dog

"Happy Retirement K9 Rony! Tuesday was K9 Rony's last day as a working police dog.

Capt. Paul Douglas' longtime partner called it a career on Tuesday after more than seven years of service to the people of Bristol County. Rony, a Belgian Malinois who is almost 10 years old, specialized in patrol and narcotics detection, and was known around Bristol County and beyond for his and Capt. Douglas' extensive work with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

Our partners from the City of New Bedford Police Department (Official), City of Fall River Police Department and New Bedford Fire Department joined Capt. Douglas' family and others from the BCSO to wish Rony farewell.

Rony now becomes the family pet, and as Lt. Kenny Almeida said in the final radio call, will have a retirement 'full of treats, camping and belly rubs.'"

All photos by the Bristol County Sheriff's Office.



New Bedford Symphony to open season with “Bach” to the concert hall

Featuring 23 string and percussion musicians plus Yaniv on piano!

Tickets: \$10 per household, available on the Z website. Subscribers who purchased regular concert tickets for September 12 have been contacted about converting tickets to virtual concert access.

This concert will be recorded at the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center and presented as a virtual performance on YouTube. A link for viewing access will be sent to all ticket purchasers by the morning of September 12. A digital program book will be available to view on our website prior to the concert.

CONCERT PROGRAM

- George Walker
- Lyric for Strings
- Johann Sebastian Bach
- Concerto No. 1 in D Minor for piano and strings
- Astor Piazzolla
- “Winter” and “Spring” from The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires
- Rodion Shchedrin
- Excerpts from Carmen Suite

Featuring the string and percussion musicians of the orchestra, the program opens with a reflective piece by George Walker, the first African-American composer to win the Pulitzer Prize for Music. The piece, originally called Lament, was dedicated to the composer’s grandmother who had been a slave.

Music Director Yaniv Dinur takes both roles as pianist and conductor in Bach’s First Keyboard Concerto. Bach’s exhilarating piece draws inspiration from Vivaldi’s concertos and at the same time looks into the future, expanding the part of the piano solo.

NBSO concertmaster Jesse Holstein performs “Winter” and “Spring” from Piazzolla’s Four Seasons of Buenos Aires. The great Argentine composer’s take on Vivaldi’s Four Seasons is full of intoxicating melodies and tango rhythms combined with quotations from the original Four Seasons.

Shchedrin’s Carmen Suite is a reimagining of some of the most popular and beautiful arias from Bizet’s opera Carmen. Written for the unusual combination of strings and percussion,

Shchedrin gives Carmen a fresh look full of colors and wit.

UMass Dartmouth to host virtual Food Security Summit

Senator Mark Montigny and others discuss the region's efforts to strengthen food system.

On Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 7 p.m., the UMass Dartmouth Leduc Center for Civic Engagement is hosting a virtual Food Security Summit. The longstanding issue around access to food has been brought to the forefront during the COVID-19 pandemic and a panel of local advocates featuring Senator Mark Montigny and members of Project Bread and the Marion Institute will discuss the region's response.

The current agenda features remarks by:

- UMass Dartmouth Acting Chancellor Mark Preble
- State Senator Mark Montigny
- Erin McAleer, President of Project Bread
- Panelists from the Marion Institute's SouthCoast Food Policy Council

Please register for this virtual event here:
https://umassd.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fb4_ap0GSVCVTfLZZfw6rA

Residents of the SouthCoast are encouraged to attend.

The event is sponsored by the Leduc Center for Civic Engagement, the Office of State Senator Montigny, and the Marion Institute.

Wareham Police raise funds to benefit “Cops for Kids with Cancer”

Saturday the Wareham Police Association hosted its second annual golf tournament at Little Harbor Golf Course in Wareham to benefit “Cop for Kids with Cancer.”

Here are some pics from this weekend. Thanks to all of the sponsors, donors, volunteers and golfers. Thanks again and we look forward to this event next year.





Boston man charged for painting Swastikas outside JFK Building

Michael P. Norton
State House News Service

A Boston man faces up to 10 years in prison in connection with charges that he spray-painted swastikas Friday on an air-intake stack outside the JFK Federal building down the street from the State House.

According to U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling's office, Gerard Richard Lee, 70, was first detained by Boston Police and then taken into custody by a Department of Homeland Security Federal Protective Service office. An affidavit filed in the case says a police officer observed Lee spray-painting the air stack, and department video surveillance cameras were reviewed and showed the defendant committing the alleged crime and then being approached by a police officer.

Lee was charged with one count of injuring or depredating government property, and Lelling's office said he could face up to 10 years in prison, three years of supervised release, and a fine of up to \$250,000.

The criminal complaint described Lee as a white male, dressed in a white t-shirt and black jeans, and special agent John Blake wrote in the affidavit that he observed Lee's hands to be "blackened with a substance I believed to be black paint." Blake visited the federal building on Sudbury Street after he received a call informing him about the situation at about 1 p.m. Friday from an FPS officer on duty at the building.

Acushnet Fire & EMS Department respond to car fire

“Monday, August 31, 2020: Firefighters were called to a residence for a vehicle fire in the driveway. The fire was extinguished and there was no extension to the home.”-Acushnet Fire & EMS Department.

New Bedford Police department warns residents of text scam circulating

“SCAM ALERT!

Be aware that a current text scam is circulating on phones that uses your first name and advises you that you have a package awaiting delivery, but you must complete a survey prior to delivery.

If you receive this text do not click any of the links within it as your personal information may be compromised if you do.”-City of New Bedford Police Department.

Text Message
Yesterday 13:08

**Marc, we found a
parcel from July
owed to you.
Kindly claim
ownership and
schedule for
delivery here:**

**[l4sve.info/
o6jSk95y6p](https://l4sve.info/o6jSk95y6p)**

Brockton man charged with assaulting officer with vehicle

A Brockton man was arrested and charged in connection with assaulting an officer while fleeing a motor vehicle stop. The defendant's vehicle allegedly dragged the officer for several feet as the defendant fled the scene, eventually crashed head-on into a guardrail on Route 24 at approximately 100 miles per hour, and ran across travel lanes of Route 24 before he was apprehended and placed under arrest.

Tykeam Jackson, 25, was arrested on Friday, Aug. 28, 2020 and charged by criminal complaint with one count of assaulting, resisting or impeding a federal officer. Following an initial appearance, Jackson was detained pending a detention hearing scheduled for Sept. 4, 2020.

As alleged in the charging documents, during the afternoon of July 27, 2020, a deputized federal law enforcement officer stopped Jackson for speeding on Route 28 in Avon and instructed Jackson to exit his vehicle. Instead, Jackson allegedly accelerated the vehicle with such force that the officer was dragged for several feet and thrown to the ground. Jackson then sped away, ignored traffic signals, and drove into oncoming traffic, eventually travelling at a speed of approximately 100 miles per hour in the breakdown lane of Route 24. After attempting to cross all three travel lanes, Jackson lost control of the vehicle and crashed head-on into the guardrail. He allegedly exited the vehicle, ran across the travel lanes of Route 24, and was almost struck several times by oncoming traffic. A Massachusetts state trooper subsequently found Jackson running into and obstructing traffic on a nearby heavily-traveled roadway and placed him under arrest.

According to court documents, Jackson is currently on probation resulting from an armed robbery conviction in Suffolk Superior Court.

For assaulting a federal officer, the charging statute provides for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, three years of supervised release, and a fine of \$250,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling; Kelly Brady, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, New England Field Division; and Norfolk County District Attorney Michael Morrissey made the announcement today. The Massachusetts State Police provided assistance with the investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Glenn A. MacKinlay and Sarah B. Hoefle of Lelling's Organized Crime and Gang Unit are prosecuting 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. PSN is 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.

The details contained in the complaint are allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

Massachusetts State and Local Police, Federal Law Enforcement crush drug trafficking organizations

In a less than two-day period late last week, Massachusetts State Police narcotics and gang interdiction Troopers and MSP's federal and local law enforcement partners in a joint task force dealt severe blows to two highly organized, high-volume drug trafficking organizations operating out of the Merrimack Valley, as well as to a Fall River-based street level drug operation supplied by one of the DTOs. The combined operations seized approximately 6 1/2 kilograms of suspected fentanyl, numerous pills, and a firearm, and resulted in several arrests, all in less than 48 hours.

The successful operations were announced today at Massachusetts State Police Headquarters by MSP Colonel Christopher Mason, Homeland Security Investigations Deputy Special Agent-in-Charge David Magdycz, Brockton Police Chief Emmanuel Gomes, and East Bridgewater Police Chief Paul O'Brien.



Massachusetts State Police photo.

The most recent of the three operations began Friday, August 28, when, as a result of a successful joint investigation in southeastern Massachusetts the previous day, the South unit of the Massachusetts State Police Commonwealth Interstate Narcotics Reduction and Enforcement Team – a task force comprised of State Troopers, East Bridgewater Police and

Brockton Police Officers, and agents from the federal Homeland Security Investigations Department – along with MSP Gang Unit Troopers, developed information about a fentanyl Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO) operating out of Methuen.

Investigators arranged for the delivery of heroin by this Methuen DTO to a location in Boston. Commonwealth Interstate Narcotics Reduction and Enforcement-South Unit members (CINRET) and MSP Gang Unit Troopers established surveillance of the target location in Methuen.

At approximately 3 PM Friday team members observed a female member of the Methuen DTO exit the residence, enter a vehicle with a backpack and leave the area. A second woman was operating the vehicle. Team members surveilled the vehicle from the target residence in Methuen to Route 93 south in Boston where marked State Police cruisers from the State Police-Medford Barracks and the MSP Troop H Community Action Team conducted a motor vehicle stop. The uniformed Troopers located nearly 2 kilograms (1,836 grams) of fentanyl in the vehicle. Troopers arrested the two female suspects – ISADORA CASTRO, 29, and KAYLIN GUILLERMO, 33 – for drug trafficking and transported them to the State Police-South Boston Barracks for booking.

Meanwhile, surveillance remained in place on the residence in Methuen during the arrests. Investigators observed the main target of the DTO, ANTHONY LEVINE, 30, exit the residence and secrete suspected evidence in a motor vehicle in the parking lot. At this point LEVINE was temporarily detained as the investigation progressed. The residence, an apartment at 142 Pleasant Valley St., building 70, in Methuen, was then frozen pending search warrants for both the residence and target vehicle.

At approximately 1:20 on Saturday morning, the team executed search warrants for the target residence and motor vehicle. As a result of the warrants, the following narcotics were seized:

- An additional 1,745 grams of Fentanyl;
- 145 grams of methamphetamine;
- 12 bags of green pills believed to be Xanax with a total weight of 334 grams; and
- 6 bags of blue pills believed to be 30 Mg Oxycodone pills with a total weight of 67 grams.

Also located during the search warrant was approximately \$8,129 in US currency, which was also secured as evidence as suspected proceeds of illicit narcotics sales.

The main target in the DTO, ANTHONY LEVINE, 30, was allowed to leave the residence prior to the execution of the search warrant – because of the length of time it took to secure the warrant – and will be arrested on a warrant. LEVINE wears a court-ordered monitoring bracket as a result of prior involvement in the criminal justice system.

The arrests and seizure of the nearly 4 kilos of deadly opioids on Friday afternoon and early Saturday morning followed two other operations by the CINRET South unit that resulted in the seizure of an additional approximately 2.5 kilograms of suspected fentanyl and the arrest of a Lawrence-based supplier on Thursday.

That MSP CINRET investigation, which was assisted by the State Police Gang Unit and members of the Southeastern Massachusetts Gang Task Force, initially targeted the distribution of fentanyl and cocaine by two suspects in Fall River. That investigation, which included a series of controlled purchases of fentanyl from the two targets, allowed Troopers to obtain search warrants for an apartment in Fall River and two vehicles.

On the morning of Thursday, Aug. 27, the CINRET South unit MSP Gang Unit, and MSP Troop D Community Action Team, along with Fall River Police Gang Unit Officers, established surveillance of the 78 Liberty St. apartment. Shortly before 9 AM

surveillance teams observed two individuals leave the apartment and drive away. Investigators followed and stopped their car in Fall River. A search warrant executed on the car led to the recovery of a backpack containing approximately \$11,600 in US currency, secured as evidence as the suspected proceeds of narcotics trafficking.

Investigators then returned to the apartment and executed a search warrant, leading to the seizure of a digital scale consistent with use for drug distribution, US currency, and documents establishing residency of the apartment.

The team also executed a search warrant on a Cadillac Escalade parked at the apartment. That search led to the seizure of the following:

- 8 bricks of suspected fentanyl wrapped in cellophane and weighing approximately 814 grams;
- 2 plastic baggies containing suspected fentanyl weighing approximately 97 grams and 44 grams;
- A revolver and ammunition;
- A pill bottle containing numerous light blue pills, stamped M30; and
- A purse holding plastic baggies, a digital scale, and a knife.

During the execution of the search warrants, Troopers, Officers and Agents developed information identifying the Lawrence-based supplier of the narcotics seized in Fall River. CINRET and Gang Unit investigators were then able to arrange for a delivery of fentanyl by that supplier to a restaurant in Fall River on Thursday night.

The investigative team set up surveillance of the prearranged delivery location, an Applebee's restaurant in Fall River.

At approximately 9:15 p.m. Thursday, surveillance teams observed the suspected supplier pull into the restaurant parking lot. Team members approached the SUV and placed the

lone male occupant, JOSE BAEZ-LARA, 32, of Lawrence, into custody. Troopers and Officers immediately located a gift bag on the front seat. Inside the gift bag was a shoe box that contained 15 block packages that contained suspected fentanyl. The suspected fentanyl weighed approximately 1,534 grams with packaging. Troopers transported BAEZ-LARA to the State Police-Dartmouth Barracks, where he was booked on narcotics trafficking charges.

The two individuals at the initial Fall River motor vehicle stop will also face drug charges. Parts of that investigation are ongoing and no further information about them is being released at this time.

In all, from Thursday to the pre-dawn hours of Saturday morning, the MSP CINRET-South Troopers and their Brockton, East Bridgewater, and Homeland Security Investigations partners, the MSP Gang Unit, and MSP uniformed Troopers from Troops D, H, and A, CAT, worked tirelessly to take 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ kilograms of Fentanyl and heroin out of the hands of drug traffickers, and to seize additional illegal narcotics, weapons, and approximately \$13,000 of U.S. currency suspected to be the proceeds of drug trafficking.

Both alleged suppliers in the two separate Drug Trafficking Organizations – BAEZ-LARA in Lawrence and LEVINE in Methuen – were highly-organized, multiple-kilogram level opioid distributors. When CINRET and Gang Unit members arranged deliveries of narcotics, both targets were able to put together the requests and move large quantities of the product in a few hours, which leads investigators to believe they either had large quantities of fentanyl on hand or easily within access.

Intelligence developed by the CINRET-South Unit suggests that both BAEZ-LARA and LEVINE have been supplying fentanyl and heroin to street level dealers for more than a year, at least.

The dedication, teamwork and effort is a credit to all the partner agencies involved.

The Massachusetts State Police operate three CINRET regional units as part of the Department's overall narcotics interdiction mission. Each CINRET unit – one each in the southeastern, northern, and western parts of the state – is comprised of MSP Troopers and local police and HSI partners. Below are year-to-date enforcement statistics from these three highly active narcotics task forces.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE POLICE CINRET SOUTH UNIT	
CONTRABAND SEIZURES and ARRESTS – YTD 2020	
Fentanyl	6.6 Kilograms
Heroin	141 Grams
Methamphetamine	1.1 Kilograms
Cocaine	478 Grams
Crack Cocaine	29 Grams
Oxycodone	231 Grams
Xanax	435 Dosage Units
Adderall	73 Dosage Units
Currency, Suspected Drug Proceeds	\$316,835
Illegally-Owned Firearms	4
Arrests	25

MASSACHUSETTS STATE POLICE CINRET NORTH UNIT	
CONTRABAND SEIZURES and ARRESTS – YTD 2020	
Fentanyl	25.5 Kilograms
Heroin	7 Grams
Methamphetamine	1 Kilogram
Cocaine	2 Kilograms
Crack Cocaine	5.5 Grams
Oxycodone	200 Pills
Marijuana	51.5 Lbs.
Currency, Suspected Drug Proceeds	\$1,393,474
Illegally-Owned Firearms	12
Arrests	21
MASSACHUSETTS STATE POLICE CINRET WEST UNIT	
CONTRABAND SEIZURES and ARRESTS – YTD 2020	
Fentanyl	842.3 Grams
Heroin	27.2 Grams
Cocaine	58.2 Grams
Crack Cocaine	2 Grams
Currency, Suspected Drug Proceeds	\$110,338
Illegally-Owned Firearms	24
Arrests	22