

Dominican National pleads guilty to unlawful re-entry following alleged involvement in Massachusetts overdose death

A Dominican national pleaded guilty today to unlawful re-entry of a deported alien. After reentering the United States within months of being removed, the defendant was charged with a heroin-related offense and was in possession of a phone that had been used in a drug transaction with an individual who died of an apparent overdose.

Joel Perez Matos, 35, who resided in Boston, pleaded guilty to unlawfully re-entering the United States after being deported. Perez Matos will be sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Indira Talwani on Nov. 19, 2020. He has been detained since his arrest in April 2020 and will be subject to deportation following his sentence.

Perez Matos unlawfully re-entered the United States after being deported in December 2019. He had previously been removed in February 2016, and had unlawfully returned to the United States later that year.

On March 22, 2020, within a few months of having been removed from the United States, Perez Matos was arrested by local law enforcement in Stow and charged with a heroin-related offense. At the time of his arrest, Perez Matos was in possession of a cell phone that had been used the previous day to set up a drug transaction with a Massachusetts resident. On March 22, 2020, that resident died of an apparent drug overdose. When arrested, Perez Matos presented police with an out-of-state

driver's license in a fake name.

Perez Matos faces a sentence of up to 20 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 on the United States Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling and Todd Lyons, Field Office Director, Enforcement and Removal Operations, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Boston, made the announcement today. The Stow Police Department also provided valuable assistance. Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Abely, Deputy Chief of Lelling's Major Crimes Unit, is prosecuting the case.

New Bedford roadwork sites for the upcoming week of August 31, 2020 –September 4, 2020

The City of New Bedford has roadwork sites for the upcoming week of August 31, 2020 –September 4, 2020 and they are as follows:

Eversource:

Eversource will replace the gas mains and service at the following locations:

- Cottage St. From Parker St. – Sycamore St. (Main)
- Myrtle St. from Sawyer St. to Cedar Grove St. (Main)

- Peckham St. from Mt. Pleasant St. to County St. (Main)
- Bannister St. from Coggeshall St. to Peckham St. (Main)
- Hathaway Rd. from Town Line to Rockdale Ave. (Services)
- Hathaway Rd. from Highland St. to Nauset St. (Main)
- Davis St. from Riverside Ave. to 389 Davis St. (Services)
- Hatch St. from Acushnet Ave. to Belleville Ave. (Services)
- Summer St. from Durfee St. to Locust St. (Main)
- Woodlawn St. – from Brock Ave. to W Rodney French Blvd. (Services)

Eversource will be doing final street and sidewalk restoration at various locations city wide.

Other:

- Contractor (PA Landers) to continue drainage work at Mass DOT Project #606709, New Bedford – Roadway Reconstruction and Related Work (including signals) along a section of Kings Highway and Tarkiln Hill Road. Construction to take place during regular working hours (Monday – Friday), police details and traffic controls will be in place.
- Contractor (PA Landers) to continue road reconstruction at Valentine St. from Brock Ave. to West Rodney French Blvd. to prepare for final paving Monday, August 31st. PA Landers and PJ Keating will pave Valentine St.
- The contractor (Private Contractor: Southcoast Development) will be conducting some roadway work at the intersection of Acushnet Ave. and Ashley Blvd. for the new Cumberland Farms project.
- Mass DOT will be making repairs on the bridge at I-195 eastbound over Route 18 ramp. Work will be from August 18th to November 30th.
- Department of Public Infrastructure will be filling potholes on a continuous basis throughout the city.
- Department of Public Infrastructure conducting its annual street sweeping program city-wide.
- The contractor (WES Construction) is scheduled to continue landscaping and begin final paving at the Front St./ Elm St.

site. Elm St., between JFK Memorial Highway (RTE 18) and MacArthur Dr. will be closed to westbound traffic. Westbound traffic will be detoured via MacArthur Drive. There will be detour signage and traffic controls in place.

- The contractor (Bay State Wind Water) is scheduled to replace municipal interconnecting water meters at Coggeshall St. and Marine Park.

- Due to ongoing construction at the High Hill Reservoir residents may experience discolored water. The water is safe, and the discoloration will be temporary. We recommend allowing the water to settle for a few hours and then flushing your service line by letting the bathtub run for a few minutes until the water clears.

*** Please note: Contractors will continue to follow guidelines and protocol regarding COVID-19 social distancing while conducting work in construction zone.*

Due to the current COVID-19 situation the Department of Public Infrastructure will be closed to the public entry. Office staff is available to assist by email and telephone.

UPDATE: Victim in Tuesday night Fairhaven Police cruiser versus pedestrian crash identified

The victim involved of the pedestrian/motor vehicle crash involving a Fairhaven Police cruiser on Tuesday night can now be publicly identified since his next of kin has been located and notified.

The victim is 32-year-old Christian Lapaz-Dejesus. It appears the victim had recently been living in New Bedford. He remains in critical condition at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Massachusetts State Police are currently investigating the incident.

At around 11 p.m. Tuesday, a Fairhaven Police cruiser was being driven westbound on Route 6 when it struck a pedestrian in the roadway just west of the 7-Eleven convenience store.

Lapaz-Dejesus was rendered aid by the officer driving the cruiser, and was then rushed to St. Luke's Hospital in New Bedford after sustaining serious injuries. He was later transferred to the hospital in Boston.

The police cruiser involved in the crash was a 2014 Ford Explorer.

The investigation into this crash is being conducted by Massachusetts State Police detectives assigned to the district attorney's office and accident reconstruction is being conducted by the Massachusetts State Police Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section.

**New Bedford's Community
Preservation Act FY 2021
application round begins with**

virtual workshop

The New Bedford Community Preservation Committee (CPC) announces the launch of the FY 2021 Community Preservation Act (CPA) application cycle at an Application Technical Workshop, hosted by the Community Preservation Committee (CPC). The public is invited to attend this informational session on Thursday, September 3, 2020 at 6 p.m. via Zoom.

The CPC anticipates a budget of approximately \$1.9 million to fund CPA-eligible projects in FY21 and strongly encourages all those interested in applying for funding during this cycle attend the workshop to learn about the application process.

The Community Preservation Act was adopted by New Bedford voters through a ballot question in November 2014. This statewide enabling legislation allows communities to create dedicated funding for Open Space, Outdoor Recreational Facilities, Historic Preservation, and Community Housing activities in the city. Oversight is provided by the Community Preservation Committee, the body established by the City to manage the CPA program in New Bedford.

To date, New Bedford's CPA has funded 45 projects across the city, totaling over \$5.2 million dollars distributed to open space, recreation, historic preservation, and community housing projects. Projects funded include the exterior restoration of the Sgt. William Carney House by the Martha Briggs Educational Club, the acquisition of open space at the Acushnet Sawmill by Buzzards Bay Coalition, and the creation of the Sgt. Sean Gannon Memorial Playground at the Elwyn Campbell Elementary School. Additionally, this CPA funding has leveraged just over \$1.2 million dollars in private, state, and federal funding.

MEETING DETAILS:

Thursday September 3, 2020 at 6:00 pm

REMOTE MEETING

The public may participate via Zoom
<https://zoom.us/j/91781164899>

Password: 036434

Or by calling 1 646-558-8656 Meeting ID: 917 8116 4899

Password: 036434

Translation services in both Spanish and Portuguese for the meeting are available by request only. Please contact the Community Preservation Act Coordinator 48 hours prior to the meeting if you require these services.

Questions concerning CPA and the application process can be directed to Jessica Bailey, CPA Coordinator by email: CPA@newbedford-ma.gov. On September 3, 2020, application materials will be available on the city website at: <http://www.newbedford-ma.gov/planning/community-preservation/>.

Massachusetts State Police investigating alleged child sexual assault by former Boston Police officer

“The State Police Detective Unit for Suffolk County is conducting the investigation into PATRICK ROSE Sr., a former Boston Police officer accused of child rape and sexual assault who was first arraigned on crimes involving one victim two weeks ago.

Yesterday, ROSE, was arraigned on 16 additional charges alleging he repeatedly sexually assaulted and abused four

additional children, bringing the total number of his victims to five, according to Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins. The new charges include 11 counts of rape of a child (not aggravated) and five counts of indecent assault and battery on a child under age 14.

For three of the new victims, the rapes occurred in the 1990s, and for one of the new victims the indecent assault and battery occurred within the past two years.

The investigation into ROSE is ongoing. Anyone with additional information is asked to contact the Suffolk County State Police Detective Unit at (617) 727-8817."

Massachusetts State Police utilize increased patrols during national "Driver Sober or Get Pulled Over" traffic safety campaign

"The Massachusetts State Police rolled extra patrols this past weekend as part of the national "Driver Sober or Get Pulled Over" traffic safety campaign.

The patrols were coordinated within each Troop through the Department's Traffic Programs Section. From Friday night through Monday morning, Troopers made 38 arrests for operating under the influence.

One driver who was stopped was charged with both OUI-alcohol

and OUI-drugs. Three of the OUI arrests were for drunk driving-second offense. One of those three blew a .18% on the breath test (legal limit is .08%); the other two refused the breath test, triggering automatic license suspension to go along with their upcoming criminal prosecution.

The highest breath test result was .24%, three times the legal limit.

The MSP will continue its increased presence through the Drive Sober campaign in the coming weeks.”

Fairhaven’s “Busy Bees Play Hive” announces permanent closing due to COVID-19

“It’s with an extremely heavy heart that we announce the closure of Busy Bees Play Hive in the Lifestyles Plaza.

We poured our hearts and souls into creating Busy Bees and we are so grateful to our amazing community for making our business a success in such a short time. Unfortunately, although successful, being a brand new business made it hard for us to stay afloat during this pandemic. We spent the past five months hoping things would improve but unfortunately there is no ‘end date’ for this virus and our business will not thrive with these new guidelines.

Many factors have gone into this very difficult decision. At the end of the day, the financial obligation to ‘wait it out’ just isn’t an option for us anymore.

We have made this decision based on what is best for us today

and we are hopeful that when this living nightmare is over and things are 'better' we can bring Busy Bees back to our community.

Although short, I have enjoyed every moment of this journey. I am so grateful for each and every person who visited and supported us!

Despite the 'fake news' and 'media hype' it is destroying businesses and the pain is real! My heart hurts for every single person/business struggling right now.

Be Kind- it's what our world needs.

If you have any questions about memberships, parties, etc. please feel free to reach out to us at BusyBeesplayhive@gmail.com. We do ask for your patience during this time. We will respond as quickly as possible."-Busy Bees Play Hive.

COVID-19 Update: FDA authorizes first diagnostic test where results can be read directly from testing card

Today, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued an emergency use authorization for the first antigen test where results can be read directly from the testing card, a similar design to some pregnancy tests. This simple design is fast and

efficient for healthcare providers and patients and does not need the use of an analyzer.

“This new COVID-19 antigen test is an important addition to available tests because the results can be read in minutes, right off the testing card. This means people will know if they have the virus in almost real-time. Due to its simpler design and the large number of tests the company anticipates making in the coming months, this new antigen test is an important advancement in our fight against the pandemic,” said Jeff Shuren, M.D., J.D., director of the FDA’s Center for Devices and Radiological Health.

HOW IT WORKS:

A healthcare provider swabs the patient’s nose and twirls that sample on a test card with a testing reagent added. After waiting 15 minutes, the healthcare provider reads the results directly from the testing card. One line indicates a negative result; two lines indicate a positive result.

WHERE IT CAN BE USED:

This test could be used at point-of-care settings, like a doctor’s office, emergency room or some schools. This test has been authorized for use in patients suspected of COVID-19 by their healthcare provider within seven days of symptom onset. Given the simple nature of this test, it is likely that these tests could be made broadly available. According to the test manufacturer, Abbott, it plans to make up to 50 million tests available monthly in the U.S. at the beginning of October 2020.

TEST DETAILS:

In general, antigen tests are very specific, but are not as sensitive as molecular tests. Due to the potential for decreased sensitivity compared to molecular assays, negative results from an antigen test may need to be confirmed with a

molecular test prior to making treatment decisions. Negative results from an antigen test should be considered in the context of clinical observations, patient history and epidemiological information.

The emergency use authorization was issued to Abbott Diagnostics Scarborough, Inc for its BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card.

The FDA, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, protects the public health by assuring the safety, effectiveness, and security of human and veterinary drugs, vaccines and other biological products for human use, and medical devices. The agency also is responsible for the safety and security of our nation's food supply, cosmetics, dietary supplements, products that give off electronic radiation, and for regulating tobacco products.

New Bedford Police seek public's help with information related to lewd incident

A male suspect has been identified in a lewd incident that occurred on August 20 around 3:00am on Pope St. Formal charges for open and gross lewdness are forthcoming.

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.

Jake Auchincloss joins South Coast endorsers for conversations on inclusive and equitable economic recovery

With less than a week to go in the campaign for the 4th Congressional District's Democratic primary, Jake Auchincloss joined South Coast endorsers in New Bedford, Fall River, and Taunton to discuss his plan for an inclusive and equitable economic recovery.

Auchincloss started the day in New Bedford with endorser Ranch Kimball, former board member of Massport under Governor Deval Patrick, discussing the importance of the port of New Bedford for economic development throughout Southeastern Massachusetts.

"New Bedford is not part of the district, but it is absolutely an anchor for the economy of Southeastern Massachusetts," Auchincloss said. "The port should not only be an engine for the fishing industry, creating \$11 billion of economic value and 7,000 jobs, but also an anchor point for a transition to a clean energy economy through offshore wind, and a potential hub for maritime science and research."



Auchincloss met with Mayor Jon Mitchell at the site of a proposed new South Coast rail stop in New Bedford, discussing points from his comprehensive plan, "Roadmap to Better Transportation."

Mitchell said: "In this race, [Jake] is talking about what really matters – and what really matters is throwing open the doors of opportunity to everybody...every corner of this district, including those in Greater New Bedford."

In Fall River, Auchincloss was joined by Mayor Paul Coogan and State Representative Carole Fiola at the Iwo Jima Memorial at Bicentennial Park.

Auchincloss, a Marine Veteran, commanded troops in Afghanistan and Panama. He said: "In the Marines, I commanded Americans from all walks of life in pursuit of a common mission. I'll bring this commitment to collaboration and service to Congress, partnering with state and local officials across the

Massachusetts Fourth to deliver an inclusive economic recovery for all.”

Auchincloss, Coogan, and Fiola then toured Commonwealth Landing, a historic textile plant recently converted into housing, near the site of a future South Coast Rail stop. Auchincloss noted the importance of these projects in bolstering Fall River’s economy and expanding opportunity.

Auchincloss ended his tour in Taunton, joined by State Representative Pat Haddad and Doug Nelson, Business Manager of IBEW 223. The three spoke in front of a South Coast Rail stop construction site, discussing the part that reliable public transportation will play in Taunton’s development and access to opportunity.

“This is about jobs and economic development,” Auchincloss said. “Economic development by linking Taunton with the Greater Boston economy, specifically the healthcare and education sectors, and jobs for those who are going to build this \$400 million project – workers who will be helping to build our future here in Massachusetts.”

The visit comes one week after Mayor Jon Mitchell of New Bedford announced his endorsement of Auchincloss’s campaign, adding to the numerous partnerships Auchincloss has built with key elected officials and community leaders in the South Coast, including: Mayor Paul Coogan of Fall River, and State Representatives Pat Haddad, Carole Fiola, and Paul Schmid. Auchincloss enters the last week of the campaign having secured the endorsement of the Boston Globe and the support of 100+ elected officials and community leaders across the Massachusetts Fourth.

About Jake:

Jake Auchincloss is running to represent Massachusetts’ Fourth

District in Congress.

After graduating from college, Jake joined the Marines and commanded an infantry platoon in Afghanistan and a multi-national special operations mission to Panama.

Back home, Jake has continued service as a city councilor in Newton, where he graduated from the public schools. Jake's positive, thoughtful leadership over two terms, especially on transportation and the environment, earned him re-election to a third term this November.

In the private sector, Jake has worked on transportation as a manager at a Fortune 100 innovation lab in Boston and on cybersecurity at a startup. He holds degrees in finance and economics from MIT Sloan and Harvard College.