

# **UPDATE: Man shot to death in New Bedford Tuesday night**

This is an update of this article.

Massachusetts State Police detectives assigned to this office, New Bedford Police and Homicide Unit prosecutors are actively investigating a homicide, which occurred last night in New Bedford.

At 9:51 pm, New Bedford Police responded to reports of a shooting in the area of 139 Dartmouth Street. When police and paramedics arrived on scene, they located the male victim outside of 139 Dartmouth Street.

The victim, later identified as Ausarmaat Rahotep, 41, of New Bedford, was rushed to St. Luke's Hospital with life threatening injuries. Despite the efforts of emergency room doctors, the victim succumbed to his injuries and died at 10:16 p.m.

The Massachusetts Office of the Chief Medical Examiner has taken custody of the deceased and will conduct an autopsy.

---

## **Massachusetts State Police remind residents about the law and dangers of leaving**

# **pets in hot cars**

Please remember that leaving pets in hot cars can be deadly, even with windows open.

If you see a pet in a hot car, call 911 first. Under state law, members of the public can then take action to remove the animal if it is in severe distress and the owner cannot be immediately located.

In July Wareham Police responded to a report of two dogs left in the back of a truck with a cap and no ventilation. When they arrived they too air temperature and surface temperatures and the readings ranged from 101-107 degrees inside the enclosed truck bed.

2 months ago the Fairhaven PD reported getting multiple messages asking about the law and the rights of the person who smashes a window of a hot car where a pet or child is inside:

*"If it seems the child or animal is in distress we want you to call 911. If it is an emergency and there truly seems to be no option, do what you have to in order to give the child or animal relief from the heat. Break a window that is away from them only if it is urgent to the point that 2-3 minutes may make the difference of saving their life. Keep in mind the car may be running with air conditioning so check the engine closely.*

You may not be charged by the police criminally but the person who owns the property could choose to file a criminal or civil charge against you in court. Sadly, that's the world we live in."

Here's what the law says:  
<https://www.newbedfordguide.com/montigny-anti-cruelty-bill-passes-legislature/2016/08/12>

# Car Heat Dangers

Elapsed Time (minutes)	Outside Air Temperature (°F)					
	70	75	80	85	90	95
Inside Closed Car Air Temperature (°F)						
0	70	75	80	85	90	95
10	89	94	99	104	109	114
20	99	104	109	114	119	124
30	104	109	114	119	124	129
40	108	113	118	123	128	133
50	111	116	121	126	131	136
60	113	118	123	128	133	138
More than 1 hour	115	120	125	130	135	140

Jon Null, CCM, Department of Geosciences, San Francisco State University



**Don't Let Me  
Overheat!**

**Call for Help**



# **Man shot to death in New Bedford Tuesday night**

On Tuesday, at approximately 9:50 pm, Police responded to the 130 block of Dartmouth Street in New Bedford for a shooting victim. The victim died from their injuries. No further information at this time.

There was also a shooting Sunday night. new Bedford police responded to a ShotSpotter activation on Sunday at approximately 3:43 am in the area of 211 Acushnet Ave., near Monte's Park. Evidence of shots fired was discovered. Police are actively investigating the incident.

---

# **Leader of Latin Kings pleads guilty in connection with alleged cocaine distribution ring from Rhode Island to New Bedford**

A leader of the Rhode Island Chapter of the Almighty Latin King and Queen Nation ("Latin Kings") pleaded guilty yesterday to conspiracy charges.

Eric Thomas a/k/a "King E," 46, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute cocaine. U.S. Senior District Court Judge Rya W. Zobel scheduled sentencing for Dec. 8, 2020. Thomas was arrested and charged in December 2019, at which time he had

been identified as the leader of the Rhode Island Chapter of the Latin Kings.

During the plea proceedings, Thomas admitted that in August 2019, he conspired with others to purchase cocaine from members of the Latin Kings in New Bedford for resale. Days later, on Sept. 4, 2019, a co-conspirator was captured in a video recording purchasing 186 grams of cocaine from members of the New Bedford Chapter in a deal facilitated by Thomas.

The Latin Kings are a violent criminal enterprise comprised of thousands of members across the United States. The Latin Kings adhere to a national manifesto, employ an internal judiciary and use a sophisticated system of communication to maintain the hierarchy of the organization. As alleged in court documents, the gang uses drug distribution to generate revenue, and engages in violence against witnesses and rival gangs to further its influence and to protect its turf.

The conspiracy charge provides for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, at least three years and up to life of supervised release and a fine of up to \$1 million. 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; Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Field Division; Commissioner Carol Mici of the Massachusetts Department of Correction; and Worcester Police Chief Steven M. Sargent made the announcement today.

Valuable assistance was also provided by the FBI North Shore Gang Task Force and the Bristol County and Suffolk County District Attorney's Offices. Assistant U.S. Attorney Philip A. Mallard and Mark Grady of Lelling's Criminal Division are prosecuting the case.

The details contained in the charging documents are allegations. The remaining defendants are presumed innocent

unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

---

# **Massachusetts State Police fugitive unit stop arrest suspect who shot man last week**

The Massachusetts State Police Violent Fugitive Apprehension Section (VFAS) and Special Tactical Operations Team (STOP) yesterday located and captured a suspect accused of shooting a man in the leg, striking his femoral artery, a little over a week ago.

Troopers from MSP VFAS were searching for RAMON BAEZ, 33, of Gardner, at the request of Fitchburg Police after he shot the victim on Aug. 2 in that city. The victim survived the shooting. Yesterday, an MSP VFAS Trooper developed information suggesting that BAEZ was staying at the Super 8 hotel in Gardner. MSP VFAS teams responded to the hotel and established surveillance, along with uniformed Troopers from State Police-Athol, members of a US Marshals Service task force, and members of the Middlesex Sheriff's and Massachusetts Parole departments.

Troopers knew that BAEZ had made statements saying he would not go back to prison and indicating he would shoot at police who tried to arrest him. BAEZ was armed with a semi-automatic handgun, according to the intelligence. Additionally, Troopers were aware that a handgun had been found inside BAEZ's car during a previous traffic stop.

The MSP STOP Team responded to assist in the apprehension because of the suspect's history and the intelligence about his alleged mindset and firearm possession.

MSP VFAS and STOP Troopers were waiting as BAEZ came out of the hotel's front lobby and took him into custody without incident. During a search of the suspect, Troopers located a loaded 9MM handgun with a 16-round clip in his fanny pack, along with approximately 13 grams of cocaine and six grams of heroin. The firearm will be examined to determine if it was the one used in the Aug. 2 attempted murder.

Troopers transported him to State Police-Athol for booking. He was charged with several warrants, including one for attempted murder, assault and battery with a firearm, and related firearms offenses in connection with the Aug. 2 shooting. He was also charged with several other warrants charging him with, among other offenses, indecent assault and battery, breaking and entering, larceny, possession of a silencer and other firearms crimes, and motor vehicle crimes, including reckless operation and having a young child in his vehicle without a car seat.

In the Aug. 2 shooting, the 30-year-old Fitchburg man suffered a gunshot wound to his femoral artery. The shooting occurred around 3 p.m. between 2 Pritchard St. and the Fitchburg Place Apartments. Responding Fitchburg officers slowed the victim's extensive bleeding, and may have saved his life by using a tourniquet before EMS arrived on scene. The victim was listed in stable condition two days after the shooting.

---

# Massachusetts public health officials raise risk level for EEE in 6 more communities

Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) today announced that the risk level for eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) virus in the communities of Bridgewater and Halifax in Plymouth County has been raised from moderate to high. The risk level for East Bridgewater, Hanson, Pembroke, and West Bridgewater in Plymouth County has been raised to moderate. This brings the total of communities at high or critical risk to eight. There has been one human EEE case this year.

On August 8, DPH, the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR), and the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board (SRMCB) announced that aerial spraying for mosquitoes will take place in specific areas of Plymouth County and a small part of Bristol County. Spraying is planned to begin this evening, Monday, August 10 but is weather and equipment dependent.

The 25 communities in the spray zone are Bridgewater, Carver, Duxbury, East Bridgewater, Halifax, Hanover, Hanson, Kingston, Lakeville, Marion, Mattapoisett, Middleborough, Norwell, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, Rochester, Rockland, Wareham, West Bridgewater, and Whitman in Plymouth County, and Acushnet, Easton, Raynham, and Taunton in Bristol County. The final spray map is available online.

EEE is a rare but serious and potentially fatal disease that can affect people of all ages. There were 12 human cases and six deaths in 2020. Before that, the most recent outbreak years were 2004-2006, and 2010-2012. There were 22 human cases of EEE infection during those two outbreak periods with 14 cases occurring among residents of Bristol and Plymouth



Counties.

EEE virus has been found in 46 mosquito samples this year and 80 percent of them are from species of mosquitoes capable of spreading the virus to people. Information about current mosquito activity will continue to be updated regularly and can be found here.

All residents are reminded to use mosquito repellent any time they are outside, and those in high and critical risk communities are advised to schedule their outdoor activity to avoid the dusk to dawn hours to reduce exposure to the mosquitoes most likely to spread EEE.

---

## **New Bedford's 2020 Seaport Art Walk is "Lighting the Way"**

Special online opening presentation with the artists takes place Thursday, Aug. 13 at 6:00pm as part of virtual AHA!

*Written by Steven Froias, contributing writer*

The 2020 Seaport Art Walk officially opens in New Bedford this year with a special online video premiere of the project, which in real life is presented along the city's waterfront in the Seaport Cultural District.

Viewers are invited to meet the artists and get a behind-scenes look into the creation and installation of their artwork on Thursday, Aug. 13 at 6:00 p.m. during AHA! New Bedford. You can watch the video on New Bedford Creative's Facebook page [Facebook.com/NewBedfordCreative](https://www.facebook.com/NewBedfordCreative). Thereafter, the

public art will remain on exhibit through October and patrons are invited to visit the waterfront and view the work at their leisure abiding by social distancing and mask wearing guidance.

The theme of this year's annual Seaport Art Walk is "Lighting the Way: Historic Women of the SouthCoast." It is adapted from, and in collaboration with, the New Bedford Whaling Museum's "Lighting the Way" project. Launched in 2018, "Lighting the Way: Historic Women of SouthCoast" explores the historical impact of women from the region.

Other partners are New Bedford Creative, the City of New Bedford, Destination New Bedford, New Bedford Harbor Development Commission, UMass Dartmouth College of Visual and Performing Arts, and Bristol Community College.

The Seaport Art Walk is a large format outdoor public art installation consisting of sculptures and murals. It was founded in 2013 by artist Jessica Bregoli – who this year is one of the participating artists. All the artists were selected by an esteemed panel of jurors. The program is supported in part by a grant from the New Bedford Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, as well as the City of New Bedford's Arts, Culture and Tourism Fund.

The work in this year's Seaport Art Walk was evaluated on the values embodied by the "Lighting the Way" project. The Whaling Museum states that "as educators and philanthropists, abolitionists and crusaders for social justice, investors and confectioners, sister sailors and millworkers, women from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds have shaped their SouthCoast communities, the nation, and the world.

"Lighting the Way is unearthing remarkable stories of women's callings that required grit, tenacity, and enduring commitment to their families, careers and communities."

The four artists who have created the specially commissioned artwork for the 2020 Seaport Art Walk are as follows:

**BRUCE BAILEY** is a retired software engineer residing on New England's South Coast with his wife of 50 years, Susan. He attended Boston University College of Fine Arts in the 1970s and obtained a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering at Drexel University in the 1980s. After decades in the steel, shipbuilding, construction and aerospace industries, he has returned to his first passions of painting, printmaking and sculpture. He is currently engaged in ongoing study at the College for Visual and Performing Arts at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. His work may be seen at [www.bruce.com](http://www.bruce.com).

His work in the Seaport Art Walk is "Homage to Florence Eastman, Army Nurse." The only woman to enlist in World War I from Mattapoisett, Florence Eastman (1894-1918) became the Head Army Nurse of the Isolation Hospital at Camp Mills, Mineola, Long Island, with 20 nurses and over 100 orderlies under her supervision. In 1918, she died at age 24 of the Spanish Influenza, contracted while devotedly treating infected soldiers.

**GRACE LANG** is a mixed media artist who creates two and three-dimensional work to tell stories of triumph. Continually preoccupied with the concept of personal "demons," her work reflects the internal struggles that plague us all, creating visual expressions of those dark little thoughts that are at once frightening and sort of funny. Much of her work stems from the belief that these personal demons are not necessarily enemies but, rather, aspects of ourselves that can be utilized for good. Understanding this link between creative expression and identity development has led Grace to facilitate art-making workshops for children. She has spent the past decade creating illustrations for teen development company, Your Self Series. Most recently, this work has focused on educational presentations about neuroplasticity aimed at fostering

positive mental health atmospheres in schools. Her work may be seen at [www.grooseling.com](http://www.grooseling.com).

Grace's work in the Seaport Art Walk is an illustrated mural entitled "Votes for Women" which celebrates the centennial of Women's Suffrage in the United States and features artwork from her recently published children's book, *March On!*. It highlights the 1915 Women's March and encourages young children to band together and stand up against injustice.

**RAMIRO DAVARO-COMAS** is an Argentine/American artist and entrepreneur living and working in Valatie, New York. He is the creator and director of 'Dripped on the Road,' a traveling artist residency program, and an artist on the road himself, at times. His dedication to painting, traveling and community work have allowed him to travel throughout his career and collaborate with other artists. After many years, the combination of all three passions led him to launch 'Dripped on the Road' and pursue an artistic career. His work can be seen at [www.ramirostudios.com](http://www.ramirostudios.com).

In the Seaport Art Walk, Ramiro created a mural called "Lighting the Way." It is a selection of 22 portraits of women illustrated all together as a community of leaders. In between some of the groups are phrases like "Lighting the Way," "South Coast" and "Vote."

Finally, **JESSICA BREGOLI** is the founder and curator of Seaport Art Walk. As curator, Bregoli works with various city departments and jury-selected artists to bring the Seaport Cultural District to life with murals and sculptures of all shapes and sizes. Each year's theme is inspired by New Bedford's unique culture and history. Originally from Oregon, she moved to this area with her mother as a child. Growing up, she worked with her mentor, Emily Johns, taking care of the gardens along the waterfront in downtown New Bedford. In 2012 Bregoli got involved with the sculpture program at UMass CVPA and upon graduation has been committed to building the arts

and culture of the city. She participates on numerous local committees, including the Seaport Cultural District, New Bedford Creative, and is the Chair of the New Bedford Cultural Council. She is the Executive Director of The Steeple Playhouse (the future home of Your Theater Inc.), the Gallery Director at Groundwork, and owner of Owl Eye property management. For more on Bregoli's work as an artist visit [Facebook.com/jessbregolisculpture](https://Facebook.com/jessbregolisculpture).

Her work is entitled "Maria Mitchell's Waves." Maria Mitchell was a pioneer for both ocean navigation and feminism. She became the first woman elected Fellow of the American Academy of the Arts and Sciences in 1848. She grew up in Nantucket and was navigating by the stars on whaling ships by the age of 14. She discovered a comet in 1857, which was named after her. She was hired as a full-time teacher at Vassar College and during this time she promoted equal pay for equal work when she realized her male counterparts were getting paid more for the same work.

---

## **Perseid meteor shower to treat SouthCoast to a show, can average dozens of fireballs an hour**

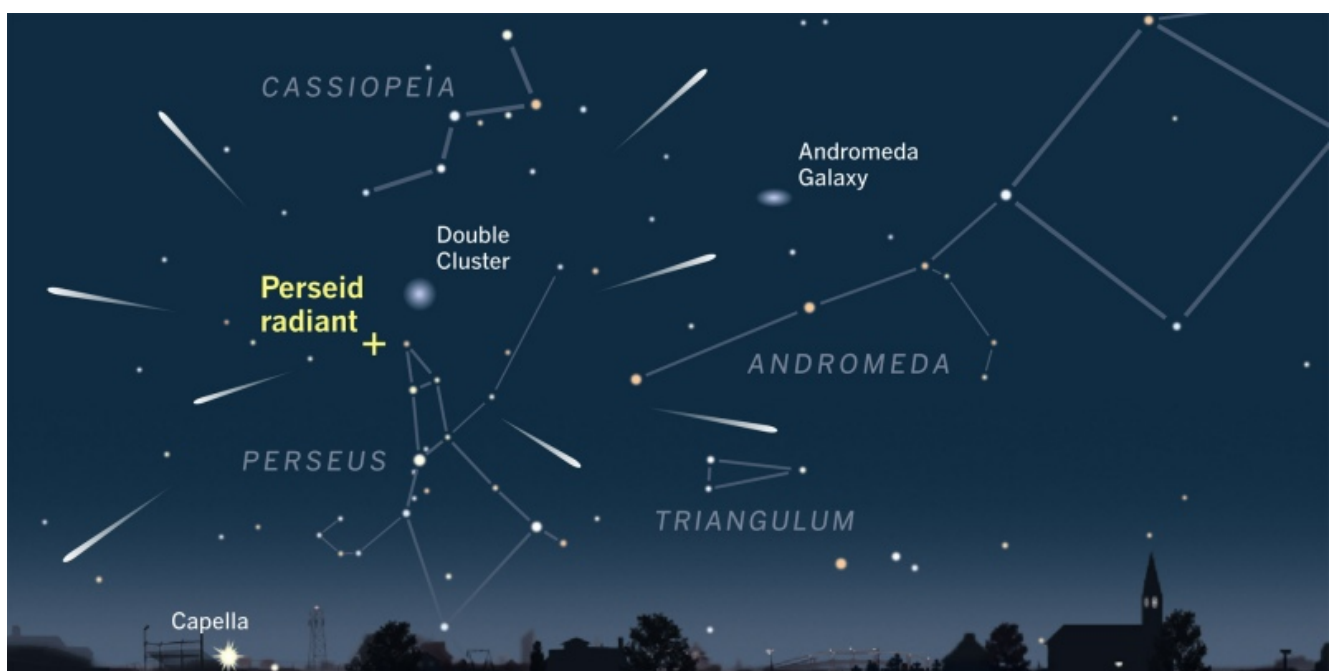
Shortly after the sun goes down on Tuesday evening you'll want to gather your kids or special someone, grab a blanket, and watch the skies as the Perseid meteor shower will put on a show to the delight of amateur and professional stargazers alike.

The Perseids which arrive each summer are famous for their fireballs – meteors with long, streaking tails. This year they will reach a peak on Tuesday, August 11, and go all night into early morning Wednesday. On average you will be able to catch a few dozen meteors an hour and as many as a hundred, which beats out most other meteor showers. Of course, you'll want to find a place free of light pollution to be able to see them best.

While Tuesday evening is the peak of the showers they will still show up with less fanfare through August 24th.

The Perseids are the cosmic fragments from the Comet Swift-Tuttle and the reason they are “fireballs” is because they enter the earth's atmosphere at an astounding 37 miles per hour and burn up before they hit the ground. In rare instances, some of the slightly larger ones will make it to ground, and if you are lucky you can find one.

Perseids earned their name because they appear to come from the constellation Perseus.



*Sky & Telescope photo.*

---

# Councilors Dunn and Coelho miss fifth New Bedford 2021 budget meeting

City Councilors Debora Coelho and Hugh Dunn have now missed all five New Bedford 2021 budget meetings.

Three days ago we reported that At-large City Councilor Debora Coelho and Ward 3 City Councilor Hugh Dunn have not attended any of the four New Bedford 2021 budget meetings and At-large City Councilor Brian Gomes has attended two of them. Gomes was in attendance last night, Dunn and Coelho were not.

Due to COVID-19, New Bedford City Council meetings are held on Zoom which makes attendance very easy. Councilor Dunn has stated, **"My absence has no impact on my ability to effectively represent my constituents as we navigate the budget process."** Councilor Coelho hasn't responded to an email request but **announced her retirement shortly after getting elected.**

The FY2021 budget review comes during a COVID-19 pandemic, shrinking revenues, and **mayor requested cuts to the police and fire departments.** The budget will determine the need for future property tax increases and fees, so the City Council's role in the budget process is considered the single most important job city councilors have.

There are six total budget meetings for the New Bedford City Council this year with the final meeting among department heads scheduled for 12 August. The final budget meeting and vote is on Aug 24.

---

# **Case #1 for eliminating judicial immunity: Shawn McClinton – kidnapper and rapist**

There's lots of talk about getting rid of qualified immunity for police officers, but what about getting rid of judicial immunity for judges who make decisions that result in death, rape, or violence against the public? Ending judicial immunity for judges is the only way to hold judges accountable and to ensure the victims of judicial negligence get justice.

What is judicial immunity? Per **Law Library**:

"Judicial immunity protects judges from liability for monetary damages in civil court, for acts they perform pursuant to their judicial function. A judge generally has immunity from civil damages if he or she had jurisdiction over the subject matter in issue."

## **Shawn McClinton – kidnapper and rapist**

39-year old **Shawn McClinton** had **two prior rape convictions** and was being held for a third rape charge before he was set free after the Massachusetts Bail Fund posted his \$15,000 bail. He was released on July 15th and arrested and charged for a fourth rape with a knife three weeks later.

According to the Massachusetts Sex Offender Registry Board, McClinton was convicted of raping and abusing a child in June of 1994 and convicted again of rape in July of 2007. He was arrested yet again and charged with kidnapping, two counts of



aggravated rape and assault and battery in 2018. These kidnapping and rape charges were the reasons he was being held before a judge allowed the Massachusetts Bail Fund to bail him out on July 15th.

Suffolk County District Attorney **Rachael Rollins** stated: "This individual has violently and sexually assaulted women and children in the past. His release on July 15th allowed him the opportunity to sexually assault and harm again. And unfortunately, he did. According to its website, the Massachusetts Bail Fund's stated mission is to 'Free Them All' and provide bails of up to \$2,000 in Essex, Suffolk, and Worcester counties.

These bails are often posted for low-level, misdemeanor offenses which end up punishing poor people and not serving any legal or public safety purpose. However, aggravated rape, kidnapping for the purpose of sexual assault, strangulation, and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon are not low-level misdemeanors. They are violent felonies. And the person they bailed out is a sexual predator that hurts and rapes women and children. The Massachusetts Bail Fund posted \$15,000 and set McClinton loose on our community. They don't care that he is a Level 3 sex offender. They don't care that he has raped women and children before. They have no responsibility to or compassion for the victims and survivors of his crimes, or the families that he has destroyed. I do."

The Massachusetts Bail Fund should be held accountable, but so should the judge who decided that a two-time convicted rapist being held on a third violent rape charge should be released on a \$15,000 bond. Judges need to be the adult in the room. Crazy people that want to abolish bail, prisons, and courts should not get their way by releasing violent people onto the streets to rape, assault, and murder us.

Judges who fail to protect the public should be held accountable. **Contact your legislator** and ask them to get rid

of judicial immunity.