

Dartmouth Police seeking public's help identifying alleged jewelry thieves

The following was posted by the Dartmouth Police Department on Facebook:

"Calling all cAHs...Calling all cAHs

Because we have both a 'priceless' and 'flawless' relationship with our followers, DPD is once again looking for some help identifying these two 'gems,' who stole several hundred dollars worth of jewelry from Kohl's this weekend.

Because they love jewelry so much, if you have any information that can help us size them both for a pair of silver bracelets, you are encouraged to either send us a private message, or call Detective Kyle Costa at 508-910-1755.

Thank you!

PLEASE SHARE

I know. I know. The one wearing the knitted cap looks like Willis from Diff'rent Strokes!

Did I just age myself there ??"

Twelve people displaced after

early Saturday morning fire on Ruth Street in New Bedford

According to the New Bedford Fire Department, 12 people have been displaced after a fire broke out to a three-story home at 88 Ruth Street Saturday morning. The fire was reported just before 4:30 a.m.

Arson is suspected as the fire was started in a hallway with reports of gasoline being used.

There are no reports of injuries, but The Red Cross has stepped in to help the 12 displaced residents.

New Bedford Fire Department to Receive \$13,780 in Student Awareness of Fire Education grants

The Baker-Polito Administration today announced that 248 municipal fire departments will receive nearly \$2 million in grants to fund fire safety programs geared toward children and older adults across Massachusetts. The New Bedford Fire Department will receive \$10,655 for Student Awareness of Fire Education (S.A.F.E) and \$3,125 for Senior SAFE.

Fire departments in 235 communities will receive S.A.F.E and Senior SAFE grants; six communities will receive S.A.F.E. grants only; and seven communities will receive Senior SAFE

grants only.

“Since 1995, the S.A.F.E. program has brought fire education to hundreds of thousands of students in the Commonwealth,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “This program allows firefighters and teachers to work together to provide fire and life safety education to young people.”

The average number of children dying in fires annually has dropped by 76% since the S.A.F.E. Program began. The Senior SAFE program is in its 6th year, providing firefighters with the funding to deliver fire safety education to another vulnerable population – seniors.

“Home visits, smoke and CO alarm installations, and fire safety presentations at senior centers by firefighters with senior agencies help older adults develop strategies to stay safe at home for longer,” said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito.

State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey said, “The S.A.F.E. and Senior SAFE programs are successful because we have trained firefighters who deliver education to children and older adults. The fire departments being supported in these public education efforts are increasing the safety of the people in their communities.”

The S.A.F.E. Program provides \$1.2 million through the Executive Office of the Public Safety and Security to local fire departments. The Senior SAFE program provides \$600,000 in grant funds from fees paid by tobacco companies to the Fire Standard Compliant Cigarette Program to ensure their products meet the fire safety requirements to be sold in Massachusetts. The programs are administered by the state’s Department of Fire Services.

FY '20 SAFE and Senior SAFE grant awards

Dartmouth Police seek public's help in identifying "contestant on the show "What Not Wear When You're Stealing Other People's Stuff"

The following was posted by the Dartmouth Police Department on their Facebook page:

"Calling all cAHs...Calling all cAHs

DPD and the Fashion Police are teaming up in an effort to identify this guy, who allegedly stole an iPhone from an unsuspecting patron at Walmart last night.

Because we firmly believe that he took the device in order to enter himself as a contestant on the new TLC show "What Not Wear When You're Stealing Other People's Stuff," we are asking that you share his picture with as many people as possible so that we can help him enhance his chances of getting picked (though based on that hoodie, I think he already has a pretty good shot...just sayin').

If anyone has information that we can pass on to TLC about his identity, they are encouraged to either send us a private message or call Detective Kyle Costa at 508-910-1755.

Thank you!

PLEASE SHARE."

Massachusetts State Police raid in Springfield nets two arrests, illegal gun and ammunition, cocaine and heroin

Stemming from an investigation into the distribution of crack cocaine from an apartment at 55 Earl St., Springfield, Troopers from the Massachusetts State Police Gang Unit, along with members of the Western Massachusetts Gang Task Force and the ATF, executed a search warrant at that location Thursday afternoon.

As a result of the raid, Troopers and Task Force Officers arrested two men and seized a large quantity of cocaine, numerous baggies of heroin, and a semi-automatic handgun that had been stolen from a gun store in Ohio in 2018.

Shortly after 4 p.m. Thursday, a Trooper from the MSP Gang Unit observed the target of the investigation, GREGORY HARRIS, 38, of that address pull up in front of the residence. HARRIS was detained and members of the investigative team made entry into the first floor apartment. Inside, team members located the second man, identified as BURRENTON CROWLEY, 44, also of that address, lying face down on a bed. Troopers and Officers observed CROWLEY moving his hands around and handcuffed him.

During the search of CROWLEY's bedroom, team members located more than 350 grams of suspected cocaine, both crack and powder, as well as a loaded Glock 26 handgun with a high-capacity magazine and multiple 9mm and .40 caliber bullets. In

HARRIS's bedroom, Troopers and Officers located more than 100 more grams of cocaine, both crack and powder. Both bedrooms also contained paraphernalia consistent with cocaine distribution.

A query of the serial number on the firearm revealed that it had been stolen during a robbery of gun store in Lima, Ohio, in November 2018. Troopers filed gun charges against both CROWLEY, in whose room the gun was found, and HARRIS, because he is the renter of the apartment.

Troopers placed CROWLEY and HARRIS under arrest and transported them to State Police-Springfield, where they were each booked on the following offenses:

- Trafficking in Cocaine;
- Conspiracy to Violate Narcotics Laws;
- Unlawful Possession of a Firearm;
- Unlawful Possession of Ammunition;
- Possession of a High-Capacity Firearm in Commission of a Felony;
- Unlawful Possession of a High-Capacity Feeding Device; and
- Commission of a Firearm Violation by a Person who Committed Prior Violent or Drug Crimes

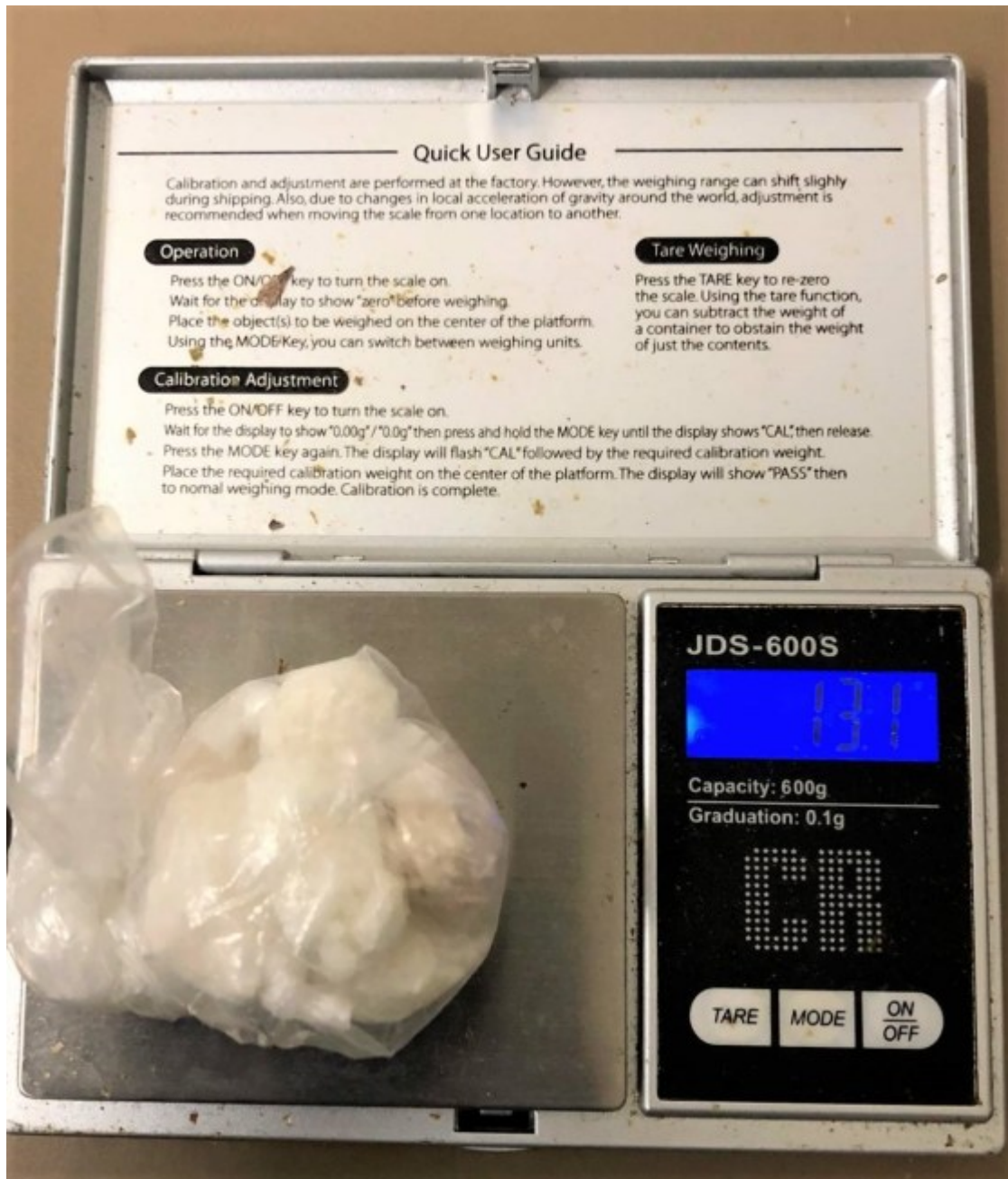
CROWLEY was additionally charged with possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, while HARRIS was additionally charged with possession of heroin with intent to distribute. The additional charges were based on further seizures of narcotics from the suspects or residence.

A bail clerk set bail on each subject at \$50,000. They were expected to be arraigned in Springfield District Court today.

Massachusetts State Troopers Arrest Springfield Man on Gun, Drug Charges Following Stop

Early this morning Trooper Patrick Dolan, assigned to State Police-Springfield, was on patrol on East Columbus Avenue in Springfield when he observed a black Ford F-150 traveling down the middle of the roadway at 5-10 mph, at times straddling the line between lanes and swerving across the entire road. At approximately 1:10 a.m. Trooper Dolan initiated a motor vehicle stop.

As Trooper Dolan approached the vehicle, he could see one occupant inside the passenger compartment, which was filled with white smoke. When the driver, identified as IVAN MARRERO, 35 of Springfield, opened the driver's side window, a large cloud of smoke and an overwhelming odor of burnt marijuana billowed out.



Massachusetts State Police photo.

Trooper Dolan noticed that MARRERO had food from McDonald's in the truck. During the course of a two- to three-minute conversation with the Trooper, MARRERO consumed two entire cheeseburgers and several handfuls of French fries. The behavior struck Trooper Dolan as a possible attempt by MARRERO to conceal any smells that may have been on his breath previously.

Trooper Dolan also observed in the truck's front cup holder a hand-rolled blunt that was still burning. Trooper Dolan had MARRERO exit the truck and perform a series of field sobriety assessments.

Upon completion of the field tests, Trooper Dolan formed the opinion that MARRERO had been driving under the influence of marijuana. Troopers placed MARRERO under arrest and located \$2,076 in cash on his person. He was transported to State Police-Springfield to be booked.

During an inventory of the pickup truck, Troopers located, in the void behind the glovebox, a loaded Glock 26 handgun with a 17-round magazine, fully loaded with 9mm ball-style rounds of ammunition. Further investigation revealed that MARRERO does not possess a license to carry.



Massachusetts State Police photo.

The truck was towed to State Police-Springfield, never out of the view of Trooper Foley, who followed the tow truck. Massachusetts State Police K9 Trooper John Doherty and his partner Duke responded to the barracks to search the vehicle. Trooper Doherty located, in the same area where the firearm had been hidden, a plastic bag containing several individually-wrapped smaller baggies of a white rock substance believed to be crack cocaine, weighing approximately 13 grams total, and nine bundles of wax paper containing a tan powder believed to be heroin.

A query of MARRERO's criminal history revealed several prior convictions for firearm and drug offenses, as well as two active restraining orders which specifically ordered surrender

of any firearms in his possession.

MARRERO was charged with the following offenses:

1. OUI Drugs;
2. Possession of a Class A Drug with Intent to Distribute, 2nd Offense;
3. Possession of a Class B Drug with Intent to Distribute, 2nd Offense;
4. Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle;
5. Possess of a Firearm in Commission of a Felony;
6. Unlawful Possession/Carrying of a Firearm, 3rd Offense;
7. Firearm Violation by a Person who has Committed 3 Prior Violent/Drug Crimes;
8. Violation of a Firearm Surrender Order;
9. Unlawful Possession of Ammunition; and
10. Marked Lanes Violation.

A bail clerk set bail at \$20,000. Unable to post it, MARRERO was transferred to the Hampden County House of Correction pending his arraignment today at Springfield District Court.

The motor vehicle stop led to an arrest of a drugged driver with an unlawfully possessed weapon that he failed to surrender per two protective orders, and the seizure of an unlawfully possessed firearm and narcotics – an outcome that resulted from the combined teamwork of the entire overnight shift out of the State Police Barracks in Springfield and the assistance of an MSP K9 team. The effort was led by Trooper Dolan and assisted by Troopers Chelsea Safford, Dane Jobst, Ben Siok, and Anthony Frissora, as well as K9 Trooper Doherty and his partner Duke.

New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell to hold Neighborhood Office Hours at Rua's West End Pizzeria

Mayor Mitchell will hold neighborhood office hours for the month of January on Tuesday, January 28, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at Rua's West End Pizzeria, 196 Shawmut Avenue.

Mayor Mitchell announced he would set aside time each month to hold office hours in city neighborhoods so that residents could meet with him outside of normal business hours and in their own neighborhood.

In his State of the City in 2018, the Mayor announced that a new format of office hours would be established, inviting residents to join him at local restaurants in different neighborhoods of the city. Food will be available at the office hours.

City residents are invited to attend the neighborhood office hours to meet with Mayor Mitchell directly and share their concerns and ideas, as well as a bite to eat. The sessions are open to all New Bedford residents, no advance appointments are required and meetings with the Mayor will be done on a first-come, first-served basis.

Previously convicted New

Bedford drug dealer arrested with \$10,000 worth of fentanyl

On January 22, detectives from the New Bedford Police Narcotics Unit seized 108 grams of fentanyl with a street value of more than \$10,000 and more than \$500 in cash after witnessing a suspected drug deal near 727 Belleville Ave. and subsequent search of those premises.

As a result of the incident, 28-year old Nathan A. Cormier was arrested and charged with drug trafficking and possession to distribute. According to the New Bedford Police Department, he was previously convicted of dealing drugs in 2016 and currently has an open distribution case before the courts.

Officers witnessed Cormier throw 20 grams of fentanyl to the ground when he was approached and discovered a small bag of fentanyl in his vehicle. A further investigation at 727 Belleville Ave. resulted in a consent search, whereupon detectives located another 80 grams of fentanyl.

Fentanyl is responsible for 93% of the overdose deaths in Massachusetts.

New Bedford man with 18-page criminal record sentenced to

6-9 years for robbery, assault and battery

A 49-year-old New Bedford man who assaulted and robbed a woman inside her own home was sentenced to serve six to nine years in state prison last Friday in Fall River Superior Court, Bristol County District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn III announced.

Timothy Gregory pleaded guilty to indictments charging him with unarmed robbery and assault and battery.

Just after midnight on February 23, 2017, the defendant and a 42-year-old co-defendant whose criminal case is still pending, knocked on the door of a New Bedford woman's home. The woman, who was home alone with her two children, answered the door and let the two men inside after they made up a ruse to get in.

Once in the front door, the defendant forcibly moved the victim to the bathroom and struck her so hard that she fell into the bathtub. While the co-defendant allegedly kept the victim in the bathroom, this defendant ran into the basement and grabbed a safe. While bringing the safe back up the stairs, the victim was able to get out of the bathroom and stabbed this defendant with a pair of scissors. The defendant lost a sneaker during the struggle.

The co-defendant and Timothy Gregor then fled the home with the safe. This defendant was eventually arrested in September of 2018 in western Massachusetts.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney William Flynn and the state prison sentence was imposed by Judge Gregory Pasquale.

The defendant is well known to police and has an 18-page

criminal record, which includes numerous convictions for offenses ranging from breaking and entering to assault and battery.

“The defendant is a career criminal who continues to commit serious crimes. Unfortunately, the victim would not cooperate in this case. However, thanks to the prosecution team’s efforts, this defendant will be kept off the street for up to nine years,” District Attorney Quinn said.

The co-defendant in this case, 42-year-old Lawrence Hendricks of New Bedford, is scheduled for a pretrial hearing on February 6 in Fall River Superior Court. He is charged with unarmed robbery and larceny from a building.

DA Quinn Bringing New Children’s Book About Living With a Loved One Battling Addiction to Area Schools

Bristol County District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn III has begun distributing a new children’s book written by a local author that aims to open up the lines of communication with children who are living in a home with a loved one who is addicted to drugs or alcohol.

The book, entitled, “A Sickness You Can’t See,” was authored by Bristol County’s own Laura Washington, who has worked in the addiction field for many years and has been a longtime community partner of the district attorney’s office. The book was written to help educators, police, physicians and others

that come into contact with children who are unfortunately living with someone addicted to drugs.



DA Quinn sits with second-grade students and Guidance Counselors, Jennifer Taylor and Brooke Daniels, at the Elizabeth Pole School in Taunton.

Often times the children are forgotten about when it comes to addiction and many people do not know how to even broach the subject of a loved one's substance abuse addiction with a child. Ms. Washington wrote the book based off true stories and true events that her family members went through loving someone with an addiction.

Unfortunately, given the ongoing opiate epidemic impacting our country, more and more children are having to deal with family members in the throes of addiction more than they ever have before. Children are truly the innocent victims of the opiate crisis and this book is just one way our office hopes to help stem the tide. Our office chose to get behind this book because of the glaring lack of resources available to children living with a loved one battling addiction. The book helps adults broach the subject in a way that children can understand and relate to, and since the book is based on true

stories, it will help children not feel isolated or alone.

As soon as the book was published, several of our community partners began asking about the best way to make sure this book gets into the hands of school resource officers, school adjustment counselors and guidance counselors. The book was also discussed by numerous members of our Bristol County Underage Substance Use Task Force during a recent meeting. At that point, District Attorney Quinn decided to use a small portion of the office's drug forfeiture funds to purchase 200 copies of the book with the goal of getting it into every school district in Bristol County.



Kathy Perry, Director of Student Services and Transportation for Taunton Public School Department, April Funches of DA Quinn's Community Affairs Unit and DA Quinn meet at the Elizabeth Pole School in Taunton to distribute and discuss the new books.

During recent weeks, District Attorney Quinn, with the assistance of Community Affairs Unit Program Manager, April Funches, and the author herself, have begun to embark upon an effort to reach out to school superintendents and principals to get the book into their schools. Thanks to this ongoing effort, the book is already being utilized by the Henri Yelle

Elementary School in Norton, the Quinn School in Dartmouth and the Elizabeth Pole School in Taunton. The book will soon be brought into more of Taunton's elementary schools and plans are in place to continue to distribute the book to schools in all 20 cities and towns in Bristol County during the coming weeks and months. The goal is to make sure every school district in the county has several copies. Our office will deliver or mail them to any elementary school that wants them and is willing to share it with students in need.

"I am very pleased to be able to provide these books to schools throughout Bristol County. I want to thank Laura Washington for her work on this book and the school leaders who are already utilizing this book to help children through a very difficult situation. Unfortunately, we are living through an era marked by an increase in drug addiction. The impact of living with an adult family member who is struggling through addiction cannot be understated.

That is why my office chose to get involved in the distribution of this book, which was specifically created for young children," District Attorney Quinn said. "It is very important for us to support children who are living in a home with someone who is battling addiction. My office has spearheaded a number of initiatives over the past several years aimed at combatting the ongoing opiate epidemic plaguing our communities and families. By distributing this important piece of children's literature to the schools, we are making yet another effort to stem the tide of addiction and reduce the impact it can have on young children. I am hopeful that more and more schools will support this initiative and utilize this book during 2020."



In Norton, Henri Yelle Elementary School Principal Martin Geoghegan, April Funches, Laura Washington and School Adjustment Counselor, Kim Fulton, pose with the new children's book at the school. On the day it was distributed earlier this month.