

New Bedford Police charge unregistered dirt bike rider with reckless operation after accident

"A man was charged after he crashed into a motor vehicle following his reckless operation of a dirt bike.

On Thursday, June 23, officers responded to Grove Street and Cottage Street just after 5:30 p.m. for a report of a vehicle and motorcycle accident.

Upon arrival, officers spoke to the driver of the motor vehicle who said as she was turning onto Grove Street and heading east when she was struck by a dirt bike.

The operator of the dirt bike, identified as Justin Cardoza, 22, of 87 Capitol Street, said he was unable to remember anything due to him not wearing a helmet and hitting his head as a result of the crash.

Cardoza was transported to the hospital for evaluation of his injuries and was found to be in possession of four bags of marijuana, weighing over two ounces.

Officers charged him with the reckless operation of an unregistered /uninsured recreational vehicle on a public way without a helmet and possession to distribute a class D drug.

The owner of the dirt bike, identified as Brandin Gonsalves, 21, of 32 Viall Street, has been issued a citation for allowing an unlicensed person to operate an unregistered or uninsured vehicle in a public way. The investigating officers were Ofc. Any Pereira and Ofc. Matthew Greathead.

In the beginning of June, the New Bedford Police Department

announced Operation Safe Streets, an initiative to crack down on illegal recreational vehicle use. Any information on where the vehicles are being stored or the identities of those illegally street riding can call our anonymous tip line at (508) 99-CRIME or call our Detective Division at (508) 991-6300 Ext. 79519." -New Bedford Police Department.