

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.

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.

Convicted Westport drug dealer already out on bail, arrested again in Fall River and found dangerous

A 32-year-old Westport convicted drug dealer arrested late last month on Fentanyl Trafficking charges while already out on bail from a separate Plymouth County drug case was found dangerous by a Fall River District Court Judge last week and will be held without bail for up to 120 days, Bristol County District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn III announced.

Scott Laberge is facing charges in Bristol County for Fentanyl Trafficking, Cocaine Trafficking, Possessing a Class B Drug and Possessing a Class E Drug.

On July 27, Fall River Police detectives developed information that the defendant was selling fentanyl and crack-cocaine out of a U-Haul box truck. Detectives observed the defendant walking around a U-Haul truck parked in the Liberal Club parking lot. The detectives immediately approached him and read him his Miranda rights.

When asked if he had anything illegal inside the truck, he motioned his head toward the inside of the rear of the truck. Inside a backpack which was located in the back of the truck, detectives found numerous bricks of fentanyl, a plastic bag filled with crack cocaine, five alprazolam pills, four buprenorphine and naloxone films, a digital scale, a box of plastic sandwich bags, and a wallet containing debit cards with the defendant's name on them.

During a search of the cab of the truck, detectives found a cigarette pack containing an additional 10 blue glassine baggies of suspected fentanyl and a small amount of suspected crack cocaine.

The dangerousness hearing was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Emily Johnson and the dangerousness finding was ordered by Judge Joseph P. Harrington.

“I am pleased the court held the defendant without bail as a danger to the community. He is on probation for selling drugs and was also out on bail from another court for other drug charges,” District Attorney Quinn said.

Massachusetts State Troopers' car stop in New Bedford for hands-free violation leads to recovery of firearm

At about 8:30 a.m., Trooper Ryan Boswell, a recent graduate of the 85th RTT, and his Field Training Officer who is assigned to the Troop D Community Action Team stopped a Jeep Compass with a Virginia Registration for a hands free violation. The motor vehicle stop occurred on Deane St. in New Bedford.

As Troopers approached the vehicle they observed the operator, JOUSEPH PACHECO, 20 of New Bedford, quickly close the glove box before removing the gloves on his hands and tossed them on the floor board.

PACHECO was unable to produce a valid driver's license and was

asked to exit the Jeep. As a result of a search of the vehicle troopers located a loaded Jimenez .25 caliber handgun with two rounds of ammunition, two large clear bags of Marijuana, a digital scale and \$267.00 in the glove box. PACHECO does not possess a license to carry.

PACHECO was placed under arrest and transported to State Police – Dartmouth where he was booked on the following charges:

1. Carrying a Loaded Firearm;
2. Possession / Carrying a Firearm;
3. Drug, Possess To Distribute Class D;
4. Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle;
5. Holding Electronic Device, Non Hands-Free;
6. Fail to Signal; and
7. Fail Wear To Wear Seat Belt.

PACHECO was transported to the Ash Street Jail where he will be held pending his arraignment Monday in New Bedford District Court.

Boston Police charge man who was set free by the Massachusetts Bail Fund with kidnapping, rape, and strangulation

A man who had two prior rape convictions, and had recently set free by Massachusetts Bail Fund after they posted the \$15,000

bail, is charged with a new rape.

At about 1:28 PM on Wednesday, August 5, 2020, officers assigned to District B-3 (Mattapan) responded to a radio call to assist Boston EMS with an assault victim in the area of Blue Hill Ave and Wales Street in Dorchester.

On arrival, officers spoke to the adult female victim who was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

Following an extensive investigation by the Boston Police Department Sexual Assault Unit, a suspect was identified and taken into custody.

Officers arrested Shawn McClinton, 39-years-old, of Dorchester. McClinton is expected to be arraigned in Dorchester District Court on charges of Aggravated Rape, Armed Kidnapping with Sexual Assault, Strangulation, and Assault by means of a Dangerous Weapon.

The Massachusetts Bail Fund whose slogan is "Free Them All" opposes the bail system because they believe it is unfair to those with a lower income and because it doesn't work in preventing crime.

**Massachusetts State Trooper
deploys taser and arrests
belligerent woman who was
allegedly blocking traffic**

and assaults trooper

Shortly after 10 a.m. today Trooper Stephen Thomson, assigned to State Police-Logan, was on patrol in East Boston. As he was traveling on Maverick Street a female flagged him down and began to speak with him. She stated she was not in distress and did not need assistance and, after a short conversation, Trooper Thomson continued on his way.

After he traveled a very short distance he observed the female in his rear view mirror blocking traffic and yelling at passing motorists. Trooper Thomson then stopped his cruiser and walked back to the female while requesting additional cruisers to respond for assistance.

As he got within 50 feet of the female he observed her screaming and throwing objects at a vehicle traveling on the road. Trooper Thomson then ran toward her and ordered her to the ground. The female locked eyes on Trooper Thomson and began aggressively approaching him. After additional orders to lay on the ground he drew his taser and warned her she would be tased if she did not comply. Once she was within 10 feet, and still approaching, Trooper Thomson activated his taser, causing her to fall to the ground.

After the taser cycle was completed she got back to her feet and again approached Trooper Thomson, this time even more violently. The female struck Trooper Thomson several times in the head and neck, deeply scratching him causing blood to flow. He was able to use defensive tactics to bring the female to the ground. At this point a Good Samaritan, named Isaac, was bearing witness to the events and jumped in to help the Trooper. Isaac was able to assist in gaining control of the female, who was violently flailing her arms and legs while resisting.

After several minutes Trooper Thomson was able to secure the

female in restraints, however, she continued to act erratic and violent. Additional cruisers arrived on scene, along with Boston Police, followed by Boston EMS. She was transported to an area hospital and ordered held for psychiatric evaluation. Trooper Thomson was treated for scratches and abrasions, along with treatment for exposure to potential hazardous bodily fluids due to his injuries. The female was issued a criminal summons and will eventually appear in East Boston District Court for the following offenses:

01. Assault and Battery on a Police Officer;
02. Disorderly Conduct;
03. Resisting Arrest; and
04. Assault.

Massachusetts State Troopers uncover large illegal marijuana grow; seize thousands of plants worth millions of dollars

Over the past few days Troopers from the Massachusetts State Police Cheshire Barracks conducted an investigation into suspicious activity at a property on Jackson Road in Savoy that resulted in the discovery of large illegal marijuana growing operation. Troopers from State Police-Cheshire, along with members of the Berkshire State Police Detective Unit, the State Police Narcotics Inspection Unit, a State Police narcotics task force and a DEA agent, seized thousands

marijuana plants with an estimated street value of over \$3 million dollars and arrested two men.

The investigation began on the night of July 29, when an Eversource crew responded to a pole outside 72 Jackson Rd., Savoy, to address an electrical problem. Investigation by the linemen indicated that wires had been overloaded and damaged by excessive electricity use from the house, and they approached the residence to speak to the occupant. A male exited the home and, claiming he did not speak much English and communicating mostly through gestures, refused to let the workers inspect the home's electrical hookups.

When the Eversource lineman explained that they had to shut the power to the residence off to conduct a safety check, the man, later identified as YEBIN MAI became agitated and gestured repeatedly that they could not turn off the power. The linemen made several attempts to explain the situation to MAI to no avail. At one point MAI reached over to the Eversource lineman and placed an envelope in the pocket of the lineman's vest. The lineman saw that the envelope contained \$100 bills. The Eversource employee attempted to give the money back to MAI, who pushed the lineman's hand away. At that point the crew decided to leave the power on, leave the property, and request police presence as they felt there was a potential conflict with the resident.

Troopers from State Police-Cheshire responded. While they were speaking to the Eversource crew, a white 2019 Ford pickup with a New York registration drove down the home's driveway attempting to leave the property. Troopers stopped the vehicle to allow Eversource employees to again attempt to explain the safety hazard at the home. The driver was identified as YEBIN MAI, 28, of Staten Island, N.Y., by his New York driver's license (the man who had exited the house earlier), and kept repeating that he did not speak or understand English. When Trooper Glenn Lagerwall requested that MAI turn the truck off he immediately did so, indicating that he did understand some

English. There were two other men in the truck.

An inspection of the home's four outdoor electric meters revealed that metal and wiring in and around the meters was melted from the excessive power being drawn through them. Eversource records indicated the home was using \$10,000 in electricity every month. Fresh burn marks on the wood that encased the meters indicated that there had been a small fire at one point. Determining the situation unsafe, the company cut power to the home and ordered it would remain off until repairs were made and inspected by the town.

Troopers made the following observations outside the house:

- There was a slight smell for fresh grown marijuana near the house.
- While there were no visible ventilation outlets, there were the distinct sounds of multiple fans running in the residence.
- After the power was shut off and the fans inside had stopped running, the smell of fresh marijuana became much stronger around the residence.
- All windows were covered with closed curtains and what appeared to be plywood on the interior of the windows.
- The backyard was covered with debris from what appeared to be extensive renovations in the house. Mixed in with the debris were large green pots used for planting and some large florescent light fixtures.
- Each entrance had a door camera tracking the entrance and exit of anyone using that doorway.
- A worn path led from the back of the house into the woods. At the end of the path was a very large pile of used potting soil, all in the shape of large pots apparently from which they had been dumped. There were roots and stalks in the soil where plants had been harvested. Troopers, through training and experience, knew these to be discarded marijuana roots.

Upon questioning with aid of an online translation app, MAI stated he did not own the house, did not know who owned the

house, and did not know why he, a New York resident, was at the house.

Upon consultation with a narcotics detective from the State Police Detective Unit for Berkshire County, Troopers allowed the three occupants of the truck to leave pending further investigation. The envelope containing several hundred dollars that MAI had tried to give to the lineman was returned to the suspect.

Utilizing online property records, Trooper Lagerwall determined that the house had been purchased on November 2, 2017, by a BIN HUANG for \$200,000 cash.

Believing – from the observations of the property and the excessive electrical use at the address – that probable cause existed that the home was being used as a marijuana cultivation facility, and after determining it was not licensed as such, Trooper Jacob Eugin applied for, and was granted by a Berkshire County court, a search warrant for the home.

On the afternoon of Friday July 31, Troopers from the barracks, the State Police Detective Unit, a State Police regional drug task force, and a DEA agent executed the search warrant and found no one inside the home. Immediately upon approaching the cellar, Troopers detected an overwhelming odor of fresh marijuana. In the cellar they

they found a room full of marijuana plants organized in rows with lights above them. Each plant was in an individual pot. In the room was a network of lights, chemicals, a sophisticated hydro system and an advanced ventilation system. The team then found five more rooms on the cellar, all with almost every square foot covered with growing marijuana plants. Also located in the cellar was a long shelf stacked with hydroponic chemicals and cultivation tools.

The team moved to the first floor and found more rooms

containing marijuana plants and other rooms contained supplies needed for growing marijuana.

Troopers located, in the house, bills and mail addressed to BIN HUANG at that address.

The Massachusetts State Police Air Wing deployed to conduct an overhead area search of the building and the surrounding 14 acres of the property. Upon their arrival they conducted several passes over the area but did not find any further evidence of marijuana cultivation.

A total of 3,598 marijuana plants, with a total weight of 560 lbs., were seized from the building and secured by the State Police Narcotics Inspection Unit. The estimated street value of the seized plants is more than \$3 million.

Over the next several days Troopers checked the residence repeatedly but observed no signs that the suspects had returned. But yesterday Troopers developed information that people were inside the house. Trooper William Munch drove past the residence and confirmed that the white pickup and another vehicle were in the driveway. Troopers Anthony Martone and Joseph Pescitelli a short time later observed a white Ford F150 pickup with a New York Registration pull out of Jackson Road and head south on Route 8A. Both Troopers noted the driver matched the description and picture of YEBIN MAI.

Based on the probable cause that MAI had been trafficking marijuana, they stopped the pickup, positively identified MAI, and placed him under arrest. The passenger was then identified as BIN HUANG, 32, of Brooklyn, N.Y., the owner of the residence. Huang was then also placed under arrest based on the same probable cause. (HUANG was not one of the men in the pickup on the first day.)

MAI and HUANG were transported to the Cheshire Barracks for booking.

HUANG indicated he understood his Miranda rights. MAI claimed to not understand English, even though he had previously complied with Trooper Pescitelli's orders stated in English earlier in the stop. Trooper Pescitelli called Interpreter Services Information and was able to get a translator to explain Miranda rights to MAI in Mandarin, and MAI stated that he understood his rights. A bail clerk set bail for \$100,000 each for both men and set a court date for both to appear before North Adams District Court on Friday, August 7.

The investigation into the whereabouts of the other two men who were in the pickup truck with MAI on the first day is ongoing. Their identities are known to the Massachusetts State Police.

34-year-old Brockton man, an alleged hate crime assault suspect found dangerous; held without bail

A 34-year-old Brockton man who allegedly entered onto a Taunton couple's property and violently assaulted one of them in what is alleged to be a hate crime was found dangerous by a Taunton District Court judge today and ordered held without bail for up to 120 days.

Michael Cates was arraigned last week on charges of assault and battery-causing serious bodily injury and assault and battery to intimidate (based on sexual orientation).

On June 29th the male victim was interviewed by a Taunton

Police Officer after he reported being assaulted on his property. During the interview, the victim explained that he and his husband were outside their Taunton home, when the suspect drove by his house in an SUV. The suspect stopped his SUV, exited the vehicle and angrily entered onto the victim's property. The suspect then, according to the victim, yelled a homosexual slur, and punched the victim twice in the face, causing him to lose two teeth. The suspect then retreated back to his vehicle and drove off. The suspect and the victim are apparently unknown to one another.

An independent witness and the victim's husband both witnessed the assault occur.

The home had a gay pride flag flying and a rainbow sticker on its mailbox.

An initial investigation conducted by Taunton Police eventually led to the defendant as the chief suspect. After numerous interviews were conducted and surveillance footage was reviewed, Taunton Police officially filed charges against the defendant on July 23rd, and summonsed him into court for last week's's arraignment.

The case is being prosecuted today by Assistant District Attorney Bryan Thompson.

"I am very pleased the defendant was held without bail as a danger to the victim and the community, which he clearly is. This is outrageous and malicious conduct. Targeting someone because of their sexual orientation, and violently assaulting them, will not be tolerated," District Attorney Quinn said,

Although charges have been filed in Taunton District Court, this case remains under investigation by prosecutors from the district attorney's office and Taunton Police Department officials. Investigators are in contact with Taunton Mayor Shaunna O'Connell's office regarding the ongoing investigation.

"I was glad to hear this defendant was found dangerous and will not be out on the streets. My office is closely monitoring this matter and our Taunton Police Department is continuing to work closely with District Attorney Quinn's office on this ongoing investigation. The allegations in this case are disturbing, and do not represent the values of the residents of this great city," Mayor O'Connell said.