

# **Alleged serial rapist connected to Massachusetts cold case rapes from the 1990s indicted**

A 61-year-old former Bridgewater man who fled the state 16 years ago before being arrested recently in Seal Cove, Maine, and being transported back to Massachusetts will be arraigned tomorrow morning in Fall River Superior Court on new indictments connected to two previously unsolved rapes from the late 1990s.

A Bristol County Grand Jury indicted Ivan Keith on charges of Aggravated Rape (three counts), kidnapping, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and threats to commit a crime.

Tomorrow's arraignment in Fall River Superior Court is scheduled for 9 a.m.

After an extensive investigation by prosecutors from this office and Massachusetts State Police detectives, Ivan Keith was identified as the person who committed two previously unsolved rapes which occurred in Bristol County more than two decades ago.

The first rape occurred on July 27, 1997 outside the Bristol-Plymouth Regional High School in Taunton. In that case, a 36-year-old woman was exercising on the track outside the school when a masked man jumped out in front of her, forcibly led her to a wooded area, tied her up and raped her.

The second rape occurred on November 22, 1998 as a 47-year-old woman was working late cleaning offices at the Steve Porter Appraisal Services in Easton. While she was cleaning, a masked

man entered the building and attacked her as she opened the door of an office to take out the trash. He then forcibly raped her before binding her hands and fleeing.

Investigators from this office began reviewing this "cold case" early this year and through their efforts were able to identify this defendant as the person responsible for these crimes. The defendant has also been linked to two other previously unsolved rape cases (one in Norfolk County and one in Plymouth County) both of which occurred in 1996.

Despite the fact that this defendant was convicted of several sex-related crimes in Plymouth County in the 1980s and 1990s, along with a sex crime conviction in Maine in 2000, the defendant failed to comply with sex offender registry and failed to provide a DNA sample to the state.

On October 29, 2003, the defendant was set to appear in Brockton District Court for a jury trial on an Open and Gross Lewdness charge. The defendant intentionally defaulted and never appeared for that trial date.

In July, our office applied for and was granted arrest warrants for failure to register as a sex offender and making false statements. These new arrest warrants were then entered into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). With the assistance of the State Police Crime Lab, Investigators from the Massachusetts State Police, led by Sergeant Ann Marie Robertson, along with the Maine State Police, the Bar Harbor Police Department and the FBI were able to locate the defendant who was living under a new name in Seal Cove, Maine and took him into custody on August 2nd. The defendant waived rendition and was ordered held without bail as a flight risk during his arraignment in Taunton District Court and was also later found to be a danger after the completion of a dangerousness hearing in Taunton District Court.

Tomorrow's arraignment will be prosecuted by Deputy District

Attorney William McCauley and Assistant District Attorney Caleb Weiner.

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## **Citizen complaints lead to busting up drug trafficking ring from Wareham to New Bedford**

Within the last two weeks the Wareham Police Detective Division, acting on tips, began an investigation into suspected drug dealing at 6 Windy Hill Drive in West Wareham. After making various observations, the detectives obtained a search warrant for the address and had identified suspects.

On Tuesday, October 15, detectives set up surveillance at the Windy Hill Drive location and followed the suspects as they drove to multiple locations in Wareham and New Bedford. At about 2:45 p.m., the car pulled into the New England Farms Store, near the Wareham police station, where detectives and patrol officers converged on their vehicle. Three individuals were placed under arrest after detectives found suspected heroin, as well as multiple pills, a digital scale, and “corner bags”, all consistent with illegal drug activity.



Later at about 3:40 p.m., detectives and patrol officers served a search warrant at 6 Windy Hill Drive. There the detectives confiscated more “corner bags”, three digital scales, Suboxone, and suspected heroin.

Arrested were the following:

- **Robert B. Mahan**, 28, of 6 Windy Hill Drive, West Wareham, is charged with possession with intent to distribute a class “A” drug, possession with intent to distribute a class “E” drug, possession of a class “B” drug, and conspiracy to violate drug laws.
- **Hillary A. Carey**, 33, of 6 Windy Hill Drive, West Wareham, is charged with possession with intent to distribute a class “A” drug, possession with intent to distribute a class “E” drug, possession of a class “B” drug, and conspiracy to violate drug laws.
- **Priscilla M. Beliveau**, 31, of 376 Main Street, Plympton, is charged with possession with intent to distribute a class “A” drug, possession with intent to distribute a class “E” drug,

and conspiracy to violate drug laws.

Acting Chief John Walcek said, "These drug arrests were a direct result of citizen complaints to the tip line and Text-a-Tip." He added, "Drug dealers should be warned that we will continue the push to arrest them and bring them to justice."

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## **Three Members of Brockton's "Head Shot Mafia" Drug Crew Arrested**

Three members of a violent Brockton drug crew were arrested and charged in connection with operating a fentanyl delivery service. One member of the drug crew remains at large.

Placido Armando Pereira, 33; Natalio Miranda, 28; and Djoy DeFrancesco, 23, all of Brockton, were arrested Wednesday, October 16 and charged with conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute fentanyl. The defendants were detained following an initial appearance today before U.S. Magistrate Judge M. Page Kelley. A fourth defendant, Jason Miranda, 24, of Taunton, remains at large.

As alleged in charging documents, law enforcement began investigating a violent Brockton-area drug crew that distributed large quantities of fentanyl throughout southeastern Massachusetts. The drug crew, which refers to itself as "HSM," for "Head Shot Mafia," ran a fentanyl delivery service that encompassed all of Brockton as well as neighboring cities. Specifically, it is alleged that drug users/customers placed orders for fentanyl by contacting a cellphone maintained and shared by HSM crew members, and that

HSM members worked together to deliver the fentanyl order. Beginning in September 2019, agents succeeded in introducing an undercover law enforcement officer to HSM, who made six purchases of fentanyl from members of the crew.

According to the criminal complaint and court records, the defendants have criminal records. In 2017, Pereira was convicted of unlawful possession of a firearm and possession with intent to distribute marijuana and was sentenced to three years in prison. In 2010, Pereira was arrested on drug trafficking charges at Logan Airport as he returned to the U.S. from Cape Verde, and later sentenced to 30 months in prison and three years of supervised release. On Feb. 20, 2014, Pereira was the target of an assassination attempt in Brockton.

According to court documents, Natalio Miranda sold fentanyl to the undercover officer while on probation for a state drug trafficking offense. Furthermore, DeFrancesco sold fentanyl to the undercover officer while on pre-trial release from a Plymouth Superior Court indictment charging him with trafficking in fentanyl, possession of a firearm, and possession of a high capacity feeding device, among other offenses.

The charge of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute fentanyl provides for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, three years of supervised release, and a fine of up to \$1 million. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based on the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling; Jason Molina, Acting Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations in Boston; Colonel Kerry A. Gilpin, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police; Brockton Police Chief John Crowley; John Gibbons, U.S. Marshal for the District of Massachusetts; and Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy

J. Cruz made the announcement today. Assistance was provided by the East Bridgewater, West Bridgewater, Whitman and Bridgewater State University Police Departments as well as the Plymouth County Sheriff's Office. Assistant U.S. Attorney Christopher Pohl of Lelling's Narcotics and Money Laundering Unit is prosecuting the case.

The details contained in the complaint are allegations. The defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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## **Joint Investigation between local and Massachusetts State Police yields four arrests, 4 kilos of Fentanyl**

A joint investigation by federal Homeland Security Investigations, Massachusetts State Police, and Revere Police led to the arrests yesterday of four drug suspects and the seizure of four kilograms of fentanyl.

During the course of the investigation, a purchase of the four kilograms was negotiated with the suspects, at a cost of \$60,000 per kilogram. The fentanyl was to be delivered to the Boston area from another state.

Yesterday, investigators made arrangements for the purchase to be consummated at the Northgate Plaza shopping center on Squire Road in Revere. The four male suspects arrived at the shopping center parking lot yesterday afternoon; once investigators confirmed the fentanyl was in the suspects'

possession, State Troopers, HIS-Boston Agents, and Revere Police Officers arrested the four men. The four kilograms, packaged in bricks, were recovered from one of the suspects' vehicles.

Arrested were:

1. GAKI ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ, 44, Woodland Park, N.J., charged with trafficking in fentanyl and conspiracy to violate drug laws;
2. SANDY SUAZO, 42, New Britain, Conn., charged with possession of a Class B narcotic with intent to distribute and conspiracy to violate drug laws;
3. DAVID DIAZ RODRIGUEZ, 46, Fountain Hill, Penn., charged with conspiracy to violate drug laws; and
4. FRANCISCO F. ALVAREZ, 39, New Britain, Conn., charged with conspiracy to violate drug laws.

The suspects were booked at State Police-Revere and held pending arraignment in Chelsea District Court.

The arrests were made by Troopers from the Massachusetts State Police Detective Unit for Suffolk County, Troopers from the MSP Division of Homeland Security, Agents from the Boston Field Office of federal Homeland Security Investigations, and Revere Police. The case will be prosecuted by the office of Suffolk District Attorney Rachael Rollins. The accompanying photo shows the four kilos.

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# **Dartmouth Police Department arrests level 3 sex offender**

On Tuesday, October 15, 2019, members of the Dartmouth Police Department Detective Division, along with members of the Massachusetts State Police Violent Fugitive Apprehension Unit, arrested Steven OLDRID (64) at #292 Chase Road, Dartmouth, after an investigation determined that he had been living in Dartmouth for several months without registering with the Dartmouth Police Department as a level 3 sex offender.

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# **Wareham Police arrest two for alleged strangulation, robbery, and assault**

On Sunday, October 13, at 8:21 p.m., Wareham Police responded to Marion Road near the Wareham Country Market for a report of a male who had been robbed by two other males. Further information provided was that the suspects were now in the area of the Shaw's Supermarket.

Sgt. Daniel Flaherty, responding on the call located the suspects near Shaw's and ordered the males to the ground. Marion Police Sgt. Jeff Habicht assisted in securing the suspects, and Wareham Officers Michael Phinney and James White investigated the robbery. A victim was located on Marion Road, who reported that he had been punched, strangled and kicked by one of the males, while the other male reached into his pocket and stole cash before fleeing the scene. The victim was transported by EMS to Tobey Hospital for treatment of

injuries.

While investigating the incident one of the suspects was found to have cash and suspected heroin in his possession. Both men were placed under arrest.

Alexander Tratzinski, 38, of West Wareham, is charged with unarmed robbery, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, strangulation, and possession of a Class "A" drug.

Michael Martinez, 30, of East Wareham, is charged with unarmed robbery.

Acting Chief John Walcek said, "This is not a random incident, and thanks to the rapid response of patrol officers, the suspects were quickly apprehended."

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## **Alleged New Bedford domestic abuser to be arraigned on Tuesday**

53-year-old Brian Jagielski, who was apprehended late last month in Chicago after being listed as one of Bristol County's Most Wanted Fugitives, has been returned to Massachusetts and will be arraigned in Fall River Superior Court tomorrow, Bristol County District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn III announced.

Jagielski, of Tiverton, RI, was wanted in Massachusetts in connection to a serious domestic violence case. The defendant is under indictment in Bristol County for allegedly strangling his girlfriend on multiple occasions in New Bedford and for also taking her to the Freetown State Forest against her will

and threatening to bury her there. He is also accused of slapping her, smashing a vase and holding a piece of its broken glass up to her throat while threatening to kill her. The incidents are all alleged to have occurred in January.

At the time of his arrest by New Bedford Police, he was on probation in Rhode Island for a previous domestic violence conviction where he spent four years in prison. While the Bristol County case was still in the District Court, the defendant posted \$27,500 cash bail and was then transported to Rhode Island for the alleged violation of his probation. After a hearing in Rhode Island in July, he posted an additional \$10,000 cash bail and was ordered to return to Massachusetts for his Superior Court arraignment on the new indictment charging him with assault and battery on a family or household member, assault with a dangerous weapon, strangulation and witness intimidation.

He was scheduled to be arraigned on July 16th in Fall River Superior Court, but did not appear. An arrest warrant issued on that same day. He also has other pending charges out of Fall River District Court.□

The defendant was arrested at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport on September 27 after arriving there on a flight from Mexico. He was being held in Illinois as a Fugitive From Justice and waived rendition.

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## **Massachusetts State Police K9 "Cairo" leads troopers on**

# safely locates woman with dementia

Earlier today Massachusetts State Troopers patrolling the area of the Sturbridge Barracks were notified of a woman in her late 50's suffering from dementia who had gone missing. Trooper Scott Davis, with his K9 partner Cairo, responded to her last known location where her husband was able to provide some bedding as scent articles for K9 Cairo to begin a track.

Trooper Davis and K9 Cairo were assisted by Trooper Ryan as they began a track from the backyard of the residence that led to a path. Several intersections were navigated along the path, then, further along the track the wind picked up changing directions. This created momentary scent confusion for K9 Cairo causing him to make large circles. The troopers paused and, once the wind settled, continued on entering thick brush distancing themselves from the trail.

As they entered deeper into the brush they heard a faint voice just ahead yelling for help. They continued and were able to safely locate the missing woman. Through the confusing trail and thick brush, the troopers lost their location and were unable to find a direct path out of the wooded area. The State Police Air Wing was overhead, however, and assisted the troopers in locating a path out of the woods. Upon their egress from the woods, the woman was returned to her family at home.

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# Taunton Man Sentenced to 20 years to Life for 2016 Murder

A 23-year-old Taunton man was sentenced to serve 20 years to life in prison this morning in Fall River Superior Court after being convicted last week of the Second Degree Murder of Gordon Weekes, Bristol County District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn III announced.

The jury returned its verdict last Thursday after a week-long trial. The defendant, Miguel Marrero, was convicted of Second Degree Murder, Carrying an Illegal Firearm and Unlawful Possession of Ammunition.

This morning, Superior Court Judge Karen Green sentenced the defendant to a life prison sentence, with the first possibility for parole after 20 years.

Marrero was convicted of firing six shots at the victim during an altercation in front of the Fifth Avenue Apartments on the morning of March 24, 2016. The victim, a Taunton resident, was struck once in the chest, once in the buttocks and twice in the back as he tried to run away. Friends of the victim rushed him to Morton Hospital in a private vehicle, where he was pronounced deceased upon arrival.

The defendant was arrested on the day after the slaying in Roxbury.

The case was prosecuted by First Assistant District Attorney Karen O'Sullivan and Assistant District Attorney Jeanne Veenstra.

"This is a brazen act of violence in broad daylight that undermines people's sense of security in our communities, especially in our cities. The defendant had an utter disregard for the safety of anybody in the immediate area. The sentence

imposed by the court is fair, based on all of the circumstances. ” District Attorney Quinn said.

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## **Massachusetts State Police K9 “Boomah” tracks suspect who fled from motor vehicle after nearly striking officer**

Early Thursday morning Rutland Police requested a Massachusetts State Police K9 unit to assist in the search for a suspect who fled on foot from a motor vehicle crash. The suspect, a male teenager, crashed at the intersection of Pleasantdale Road and Main Street around 2:40 a.m., a short time after nearly striking a Rutland cruiser with the motor vehicle he was driving.

MSP K9 Section Trooper Kyle Kilimonis and his partner Boomah responded to assist. Trooper Kilimonis deployed Boomah from the crashed vehicle. Boomah acquired a scent and tracked to the rear of a Main Street house, where he, Trooper Kilimonis, and a Rutland Officer came up to a fenced-in goat farm.

The search team negotiated its way past the goats and tracked an approximate half-mile into woods behind the house. After the team found a discarded sweatshirt with fresh blood on it, Boomah circled around thick woods and a swamp.

The track eventually led back out to Main Street, east of the crash site, and Boomah eventually led the Trooper and Officer into the backyard of a house on Kenwood Drive, near the intersection with Main, where the dog exhibited an alert. In

the backyard was a shed; Trooper Kilimonis noticed the shed door was open a crack.

Trooper Kilimonis announced the presence of the K9, and then the team entered the shed. Once inside, Boomah continued to alert and bark, and Trooper Kilimonis again announced their presence.

Boomah made his way to a far corner of the shed and located and apprehended the suspect, who was curled up in a ball on the floor. The suspect, a 17-year-old male, was taken into custody and transported to UMass-Lakeside Hospital in Worcester for examination. He will face charges to include using a motor vehicle without authority, failure to stop for police, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, leaving the scene of a crash, and breaking and entering.