

Southcoast Health recognizes “Donate Life Month” with annual New Bedford flag- raising ceremony

“NEW BEDFORD, Mass. – Community members, providers, nurses and staff gathered at St. Luke’s Hospital this morning for New England Donor Services and Southcoast Health’s annual flag-raising ceremony in recognition of Donate Life Month.

Celebrated every April since 2003, Donate Life Month is a time to recognize the recipients of organ and tissue donation. This month also brings an increase in awareness about becoming a donor and the opportunity to give someone in need of a transplant a second chance at life.

For the second year, Southcoast Health was honored to have the family of Sam Ellis – his mother and Southcoast Employee Cheryl Ellis, his sister Sophia-Lynn Bechard, Derek Bechard and Barbara Sullivan – present at the flag raising to share the story of Sam’s organ donation, after passing away due to a motor vehicle accident three years ago.



Southcoast Health photo.

“Donate Life Month is a time to honor and remember those who gave a life-saving donation to someone in need of an organ or tissue transplant – and to inspire others to make the decision to register to donate,” said David O. McCready, President and CEO of Southcoast Health. “On behalf of everyone here at Southcoast Health, I want to express how deeply grateful we are for our community partners, providers, nurses and staff who make this possible. I especially want to thank Sophia-Lynn for sharing her family’s story. This is the single best way to shine a light on the impact and importance of organ donation.”

In 2023, 21 donors across Southcoast Health made 63 organ and 35 tissue transplants possible. So far, in 2024, 6 lifesaving donors have given 16 organ transplants and 16 tissue donations, officials said.

“I’m proud to be part of such a giving and compassionate community that supports the importance of organ donation. I want to express my gratitude to all organ donors and their families for their generosity and courage in making the decision to donate – even in the midst of loss and grief,” said Tonya Johnson, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Southcoast Hospitals Group at the event.

All three Southcoast Health Hospitals, Charlton Memorial, St. Luke's and Tobey, work in collaboration with New England Donor Services, the area's local designated organ procurement organization, to provide lifesaving donations to individuals in need of an organ or tissue transplant.

Dr. Charles Strom, Senior Director, Organ Surgical Services at New England Donor Services (NEDS), also spoke at the event, emphasizing the importance of the collaboration between Southcoast Health and NEDS to help make organ donation possible in the South Coast region.

According to the New England Donor Services, there are currently more than 115,000 men, women and children in the United States waiting for a potentially life-saving transplant. More than 5,000 of these individuals live in the New England region.

Recognizing this cause year-round, Southcoast Health hospitals fly the New England Donor Services Flag on the last day of each month where an organ donation has occurred to honor the person who gave a second chance at life to others.

You can register to be an organ and tissue donor through the National Donate Life Registry or at the RMV when you renew your license."

**Massachusetts Div. of
Fisheries & Wildlife "Fisher**

Cats are misunderstood creatures!”

“Fishers, sometimes called “fisher cats” are one of our most misunderstood creatures. Because they are rarely seen, many people don’t know much about them, which has led to some misconceptions about their behavior.

Can you separate facts from fiction?

Learn why they are called fishers, why they are important to our ecosystem, and listen to audio of critters who make strange sounds at night: bit.ly/fishers-fact-fiction.”- Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife.

Adult males usually weigh between 8 to 16 pounds. Females are smaller, weighting 4 to 6 pounds.

Fishers may look larger in the winter because of their thick winter coat. They grow extra fur to keep warm and their coat can be 3 inches thick!

FACT!



Christina Radcliffe photo.

Fishers tend to be quiet creatures and screaming while hunting would actually make the prey aware of their presence and decrease their chances of catching food.

The loud screams you hear are more likely to be a red fox, barn owl, or bobcat.

FICTION!



Christina Radcliffe photo.

Fish are not a regular part of their diet. Squirrels, birds, fruit, eggs, carrion, and porcupines are more typical sources of food.

FICTION!



Christina Radcliffe photo.

Fishers are one of the few predators that actively hunt porcupines. Without fishers to keep the porcupine population in check, porcupines overbrowse tender new growth and chew bark away. This harms the trees and can lead to a decline in forest health over time.

FACT!



Christina Radcliffe photo.

**[VIDEO] Fall River teen takes
Massachusetts State Troopers**

on high speed chase involving helicopter

Shortly before 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Massachusetts State Troopers attempted to stop a stolen vehicle related to an earlier Be On the Lookout (BOL0) notification. The vehicle fled the initial stop but was quickly observed merging on to Route 79 northbound. Troopers followed the vehicle for a short time, but disengaged when the vehicle exited the highway on to local roadways.

A Massachusetts State Police Air Wing flight crew, operating in Air 2, responded to provide overflight support and was able to locate then track the suspect vehicle on Route 24 northbound in the area of Exit 11. After exiting the highway, the vehicle turned onto a loop subdivision in Berkley at which point members of the Berkley Police Department were able to block both exits, trapping the suspect vehicle inside. The three occupants quickly bailed out of the vehicle and were apprehended within a few minutes.

Troopers arrested and charged ALEXIA SPRINGER, 21, of Fall River, and LIJAH FORTES, 27, of Fall River, with Receiving Stolen Motor Vehicle.

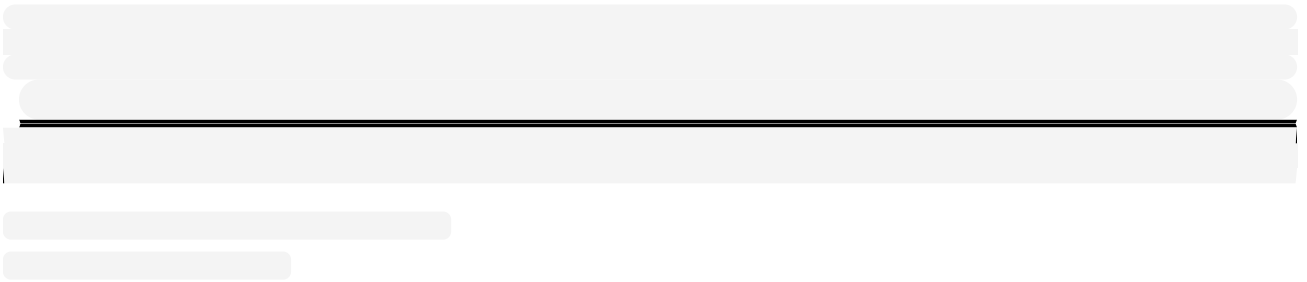
The driver, KOBE WEST, 19, of Fall River is charged with:

1. Receiving Stolen Motor Vehicle;
2. Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Revoked Driver's License;
3. Reckless Operation of a Motor Vehicle;
4. Failure to Stop for Police;
5. Marked Lanes Violation; and
6. Speeding.

WEST was also wanted on five outstanding warrants for his arrest.



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A post shared by New Bedford Guide (@newbedfordguide)

Catalytic converter theft crew responsible for \$2 million in losses in Massachusetts, Rhode Island

Theft crew responsible for an estimated \$2 million in losses across Massachusetts and New Hampshire during 2022 and 2023.

“BOSTON – The leader of a regional organized theft crew who orchestrated the thefts of catalytic converters from nearly 500 vehicles across the region, multiple jewelry store robberies and the stealing of ATMs pleaded guilty yesterday in federal court in Boston.

Rafael Davila, a/k/a “Robbin Hood,” 35, of Springfield, Mass, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to transport stolen property in interstate commerce; interstate transportation of stolen property; conspiracy commit money laundering, conspiracy to commit bank theft; and bank theft. U.S. District Court Judge Leo T. Sorokin scheduled sentencing for July 30, 2024.

In April 2023, Rafael Davila was arrested and charged along with six others in connection with the theft, transportation and sale of stolen catalytic converters taken from nearly 500 vehicles across Massachusetts and New Hampshire in 2022 through April 2023. It is believed that a significant number of additional thefts have not been identified or were not ever reported to law enforcement.

According to court filings, there has been a precipitous decline in catalytic converter thefts reported in Massachusetts as a result of the April 2023 takedown – with less than 15 reported incidents of catalytic converter theft over the past 11 months following the arrests, in comparison to the hundreds of thefts reported during the nine-month

period prior.

Catalytic converter theft has become a nationwide problem due to the high-valued precious metals they contain – some of which are more valuable than gold, with black-market prices being more than \$1,000 each in recent years. The theft of a vehicle's catalytic converter results in damage that renders the vehicle inoperable – both mechanically and legally under EPA regulations – until properly replaced.

The crew was led by Davila, who engaged in catalytic converter thefts and burglaries on a full-time basis – committing thefts multiple nights per week for upwards of eight hours a night. Davila was responsible for the planning of and transportation to each targeted theft – using his vehicle, determining price values for stolen converters and purchasing needed materials. Davila maintained meticulous notes accounting for the locations that he and his co-conspirators had targeted and the number of catalytic converters that had been stolen, including the makes and models and when they were dropped off for sale.

The thefts resulted in losses of approximately \$5,000 per vehicle with certain trucks costing over \$10,000 to repair. This amounts to an approximate \$2 million in losses suffered by more than 300 separate victims who were forced to deal with their vehicles being disabled for potentially weeks on end. The more than 300 victims included businesses and individuals across Massachusetts and parts of New Hampshire, including a food pantry, automotive businesses, tradesmen, a bakery, single parents, a home healthcare provider and the elderly. Some businesses were repeatedly targeted on multiple nights.

Once in possession of the stolen catalytic converters, the crew would then sell them to Jose Torres, who would accumulate stolen catalytic converters from multiple theft crews and then in turn sell them to scrap dealers – transacting approximately \$30,000 to \$80,000 in stolen catalytic converters per week. Torres then sold stolen catalytic converters to scrap dealers

who have since been charged federally for interstate transportation of stolen property and money laundering in the District of Connecticut, the Eastern District of California and Northern District of Oklahoma. Rafael Davila admitted to conspiring with Torres to transact in the stolen catalytic converters.

In addition to the catalytic converter thefts, Davila also admitted to conspiring to steal from ATMs of federally insured banks in Massachusetts on three separate occasions in December 2022. This conspiracy involved the use of stolen trucks and chains to rip the ATMs from the ground and gain access to the vault.

Rafael Davila also admitted to committing burglaries of two New Hampshire jewelry stores on Jan. 12, 2023, and the theft of a trailer on Dec. 14, 2022. Davila admitted to breaking into the stores by smashing the glass doors and breaking the jewelry cases and stealing the jewelry. The combined total value of the jewelry stolen during the burglaries was determined to be over \$137,000, with each store facing approximately \$10,000 in costs to repair the resulting damage.

Rafael Davila is the seventh and final defendant charged in Operation Cut & Run to plead guilty. All six of his co-defendants have pleaded guilty – three of whom have since been sentenced, each to more than three years in prison. The three remaining defendants are awaiting sentencing.

The charge of conspiracy to transport stolen property in interstate commerce provides for a sentence of up to five years in prison, up to three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000. The charge of interstate transportation of stolen property provides for a sentence of up to 10 years, up to three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000. The charge of conspiracy to commit bank theft provides for a sentence of up to five years in prison, up to three years of supervised release and a fine of

up to \$250,000. The charge of bank theft provides for a sentence of up to 10 years, up to three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000. The charge of conspiracy to commit money laundering provides for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$500,000 or twice the value of the proceeds, whichever is greater. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy; Jodi Cohen, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division; John E. Mawn Jr., Interim Colonel of the Massachusetts State Police; and Kevin Gallagher, Director of Operations for the National Insurance Crime Bureau, Northeast Region made the announcement today. Valuable assistance was also provided by the United States Attorney's Offices for the Districts of Connecticut, Rhode Island, Northern District of Oklahoma and the Eastern District of California; Homeland Security Investigations; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives; the Plymouth County District Attorney's Office; and the New England State Police Information Network. Assistant U.S. Attorney Philip A. Mallard of the Organized Crime & Gang Unit is prosecuting the case.

Over 70 local police departments in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Connecticut contributed to this investigation through the submission of their investigations of catalytic converter thefts in their jurisdiction. The Massachusetts Police Departments contributing to the investigation were Abington, Acton, Andover, Auburn, Bedford, Bellingham, Beverly, Billerica, Burlington, Bridgewater, Canton, Carver, Chelmsford, Concord, Cranston, East Hampton, Easton, Fitchburg, Framingham, Franklin, Gardner, Hampton, Hanover, Haverhill, Hingham, Holliston, Holyoke, Hudson, Ipswich, Lawrence, Leominster, Lynn, Malden, Mansfield, Medford,

Marlborough, Methuen, Middleton, Milford, Millbury, Needham, Newton, Northborough, Norwell, Norwood, Peabody, Pembroke, Plymouth, Randolph, Rockland, Sharon, Shrewsbury, Springfield, Sterling, Sturbridge, Sudbury, Tyngsborough, Walpole, Waltham, Watertown, West Bridgewater, Weymouth, Wilmington, Woburn and Worcester. The New Hampshire Police Departments contributing to the investigation were Bow, Concord, Derry, Hooksett, Hudson, Londonderry, Manchester, Salem, Windham. The Connecticut Police Departments contributing to the investigation were South Windsor and Windsor.”-Massachusetts Department of Justice.

Oklahoma man arrested for allegedly throwing pipe bomb at Satanic Temple in Salem, Massachusetts

“BOSTON – An Oklahoma man was arrested and charged today for allegedly throwing a pipe bomb at The Satanic Temple (TST) in Salem, Mass.

Sean Patrick Palmer, 49, of Perkins, Okla., was charged in a criminal complaint with using an explosive to cause damage to a building used in interstate or foreign commerce. Palmer was arrested this morning and will make an initial appearance in the Western District of Oklahoma on Thursday. He will appear in federal court in Boston at a later date.

According to the charging documents and TST’s website, TST is a “non-theistic organization” founded in 2013 and headquartered in Salem, Mass. In addition to serving as the

organization's headquarters, TST's Salem location also functions as a public, TST-themed art gallery.



Massachusetts Department of Justice photo.

At approximately 4:14 a.m. on April 8, 2024, surveillance cameras outside TST captured a man walking towards TST wearing black pants, and black jacket, a black face covering, a tan-colored tactical vest and gloves. According to the charging documents, as the man approached TST, he ignited a pipe bomb—a type of improvised explosive device or “IED”—threw it at TST’s main entrance, and then ran away. Seconds later, the pipe bomb partially detonated causing minor fire and related damage to TST’s exterior.

According to the charging documents, the pipe bomb appeared to have been constructed from a section of plastic pipe covered

with metal nails, which were attached to the pipe with tape. The inside of the pipe was filled with a powder-like substance, preliminarily identified as smokeless gunpowder. A single human hair was allegedly located on the pipe bomb containing a DNA profile from a Caucasian male.

A six-page handwritten note was found in a flower bed adjacent to where the pipe bomb was discovered. Among other things, the letter allegedly stated:

“DEAR SATANIST

**ELOHIM SEND ME 7 MONTHS AGO TO GIVE YOU
PEACEFUL MESSAGE TO HOPE YOU REPENT. YOU SAY
NO, ELOHIM NOW SEND ME TO SMITE SATAN AND I
HAPPY TO OBEY. AND ELOHIM WANT ME TO CONTACT
YOU TO TELL YOU REPENT. TURN FROM SIN. ELOHIM
NO LIKE THIS PLACE AND PLAN TO DESTROY IT. MAYBE
SALEM TOO? ELOHIM SEND ME TO FIGHT CRYBABY
SATAN, BUT WANT ME TO MAKE HARD EFFORT SO NO
ONE DIES. I OBEY.”**



Massachusetts Department of Justice photo.

Surveillance footage obtained during the investigation identified a black Volvo sedan, allegedly registered to Palmer, driving erratically in the immediate vicinity of TST both before and after the incident.

A photograph of Palmer, who is a Caucasian male, posted to a social media website shows him wearing a tan-colored tactical vest like the vest worn by the suspect in the TST surveillance video. Palmer also allegedly comments frequently on a social media website about religious matters and themes similar to those contained in the handwritten note found outside of TST on April 8, 2024.

Finally, the charging document alleges that on April 3, 2024, Palmer purchased PVC pipe and matching PVC end cap—like the pipe and end cap used to construct the pipe bomb—from a home improvement retailer in Oklahoma.

The charge of using fire or an explosive to cause damage to a building used in interstate or foreign commerce provides for a sentence of at least five years and up to 20 years in prison, three years of supervised release, and a fine of up to \$250,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy; Jodi Cohen, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division; and Lucas J. Miller, Chief of the Salem Police Department made the announcement today. Valuable assistance was provided by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, Boston Field Division; Massachusetts State Police; Federal Bureau of Investigation's Oklahoma City Field Office; Payne County Sherriff's Office; Oklahoma Highway Patrol; the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Oklahoma; and Stillwater (Okla.) Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney Jason A. Casey of the National Security Unit is prosecuting the case.

The details contained in the charging documents are allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law."-Massachusetts Department of Justice.

**New Bedford Police arrest
Providence man, seize**

firearm, following late-night traffic stop

“Patrol officers have taken a Providence man into custody following a late-night traffic stop this past weekend.

On April 14th, at around 3 AM, officers were investigating the erratic operation of a vehicle that had stopped on Norwell St. The suspect, Mr. ELIEZER MELERO, 27, of Sumster St. in Providence, was operating the vehicle. MELERO had a female passenger with him.

Ofc. Jacob Rebello and Ofc. Robert Green immediately detected signs of intoxication as MELERO refused repeated commands to produce his license and exit the vehicle. A brief struggle ensued, during which it was discovered that he had a firearm near his feet on the floor beneath him.

MELERO was successfully taken into custody, and the firearm was secured. It was found to be a Glock 17 pistol with no serial number for which MELERO had no license.

MELERO was transported to headquarters, where he was found to have a blood alcohol level of .16, which is twice the legal limit. MELERO was charged with a variety of offenses, including drunk driving, failure to submit to police, resisting arrest, and unlawful possession of a high-capacity firearm and ammunition while intoxicated and unlicensed. MELERO has a previous charge for firearm possession in Rhode Island.

If you have any information concerning crime, you can remain anonymous. Call 508-99-CRIME, or visit our website and leave tips at <https://www.newbedfordpd.com/report/> -City of New Bedford Police Department.

Freetown announces its annual Earth Day celebration! Cleanup followed by pizza party

What: Freetown is proud to announce its annual Earth Day celebration.

When: The event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 20th, with a rain date set for April 27th, from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

Where: Before commencing cleanup activities, participants are urged to gather at designated pick-up points (identified and mapped out on the town's website) to receive their cleanup kits and complimentary Earth Day T-shirts.

Following the cleanup, The Town of Freetown will be sponsoring a "Pizza Party "at the COA (Address: 227 Chace Road, E. Freetown, MA 02717) for all who help make our community Clean & Green.

Why: The Town welcomes the community to join the movement to keep Freetown "Clean & Green" by actively participating in a community-wide cleanup.

The event's success would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors, including Borges Bros. Trucking, Advance Air & Heat Company Inc, Copart, and Stop & Shop.

For more information, please [click here](#).

To register as a volunteer or team leader please [click the](#)

link below: <https://forms.gle/vTBjftTPek2mf7um6>



New Bedford's Arthur "Pooch" Tavares, singer of beloved Grammy-winning "Tavares" passes away

Arthur "Pooch" Tavares, real name Antone, the lead singer of the beloved music group 'Tavares,' has passed away at 81 years of age. His brother, Perry Lee "Tiny" Tavares, posted a photo tribute on his Facebook page Wednesday morning, with the short message, "Miss what we had." "Pooch" suffered a massive stroke in 2014, which ultimately led to his retirement from the group.

The Tavares Brothers – five in total – made New Bedford proud

with their chart-topping songs, No. 1, and 10 Hit Albums, 12 Singles on the R&B Top 10 Chart, and eight singles on the Billboard's Top 40. A version of the song "More Than a Woman" performed by the Tavares Brothers was part of the soundtrack for the film, Saturday Night Fever which won a Grammy Award in 1978 for Best Album of the Year. The Tavares Brothers also frequently toured with The Jackson Five.

In 2006 the brothers were inducted into the Cape Verdean Museum Hall of Fame and inducted into the Rhode Island Music Hall of Fame in 2014.

The announcement of Pooch's passing comes just days after the New Bedford City Council met to iron out the details for a street dedication ceremony honoring the brothers. The street named Tavares Brothers Way was put on the fast track by City Council because they were aware of Pooch's failing health and limited time they had. The newly named street would replace Griffin Court.

Many council members would like to see a memorial on Tavares Brothers Way that would be bordered by some benches.



Tiny Tavares photo.



Tiny Tavares photo.



Tiny Tavares photo.
new bedford neigh



Tiny Tavares photo.

Massachusetts Dept. of Fire Services' tracking tool finds 50 lithium-ion battery fires in 6 months

Standard Nationwide Method Recorded About 20 Per Year.

"STOW—The Massachusetts Department of Fire Services' new tool for tracking lithium-ion battery fires has helped to identify

50 such incidents in the past six months, more than double the annual average detected by a national fire data reporting system, said State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine.

The Department of Fire Services launched its Lithium-Ion Battery Fire Investigative Checklist on Oct. 13, 2023. It immediately went into use by the State Police Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit assigned to the State Fire Marshal's office, and local fire departments were urged to adopt it as well. Developed by the DFS Fire Safety Division, the checklist can be used by fire investigators to gather basic information about fires in which lithium-ion batteries played a part. That information is then entered into a database to identify patterns and trends.

"We knew anecdotally that lithium-ion batteries were involved in more fires than the existing data suggested," said State Fire Marshal Davine. "In just the past six months, investigators using this simple checklist have revealed many more incidents than we've seen in prior years."

Prior to the checklist, the state's fire service relied on battery fire data reported to the Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS), a state-level tool that mirrors and feeds into the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). NFIRS tracks battery fires but does not specifically gather data on the types of batteries involved. Some fields do not require the detailed information that Massachusetts officials were seeking, and some fires may be coded according to the type of device involved rather than the type of battery. Moreover, MFIRS reports sometimes take weeks or months to be completed and uploaded.

"Investigators using the Lithium-Ion Battery Fire Checklist are getting us better data faster," said State Fire Marshal Davine. "The tool is helpful, but the people using it are the key to its success."

From 2019 to 2023, an average of 19.4 lithium-ion battery fires per year were reported to MFIRS – less than half the number identified by investigators using the checklist over the past six months. The increase since last fall could be due to the growing number of consumer devices powered by these batteries, increased attention by local fire investigators, or other factors, State Fire Marshal Davine said. For example, fires that started with another item but impinged upon a battery-powered device, causing it to go into thermal runaway, might not be categorized as a battery fire in MFIRS or NFIRS.

Lithium-ion battery fires were reported in 38 cities and towns. Nine of the fires involved micromobility devices such as battery-powered scooters, e-bikes, and hoverboards, making them the most commonly involved in fires, according to the data. Eight fires involved laptops and another eight involved cell phones, tablets, or similar devices. Power tools were involved in six fires. The device's charging status could be determined in 41 of the 50 fires: surprisingly, 56% of these devices were not charging at the time of the incident.

Lithium-ion batteries power everything from small devices like e-cigarettes and smartphones to scooters, e-bikes, and electric vehicles. If they are overcharged, overheated, or abused, they can fail rapidly and without warning. A lithium-ion battery that goes into thermal runaway will erupt in an explosion of toxic gases and flames that will ignite nearby furnishings. Water and traditional fire extinguishers are significantly less effective against lithium-ion battery fires.

State Fire Marshal Davine offered the following safety tips for preventing lithium-ion battery fires:

- Be sure you have working smoke alarms installed on every level of your home.
- Use only the original equipment manufacturer's batteries and charging equipment. Aftermarket or generic batteries and

chargers may be cheaper but are more likely to pose a burn, fire, or explosion hazard.

- Store scooters and e-bikes outdoors if possible. If you must store them indoors, keep them and their batteries clear of doors, windows, and stairways.
- Charge the battery directly from a wall outlet, not an extension cord or power strip. Place it on a hard and stable surface, not a bed, couch, or pillow.
- Charge only one battery or device at a time and unplug it when it's fully charged. Don't allow a charged battery to continue charging.
- If you notice changes to the battery or the device, including damage, an unusual odor, a change in color, too much heat, change in shape, leaking, smoking, or not keeping a charge, stop using it right away.
- If and when it's time to dispose of the battery, don't put it in the trash. Lithium-ion batteries should be recycled, and you can find a location to take them at <https://www.call2recycle.org/locator/>.

Residents can learn more about lithium-ion battery safety at the Department of Fire Services' Lithium-Ion Battery Safety web page."-Massachusetts Department of Fire Service.

**Neighbors in New Bedford
raise concern over man
frequently wandering into**

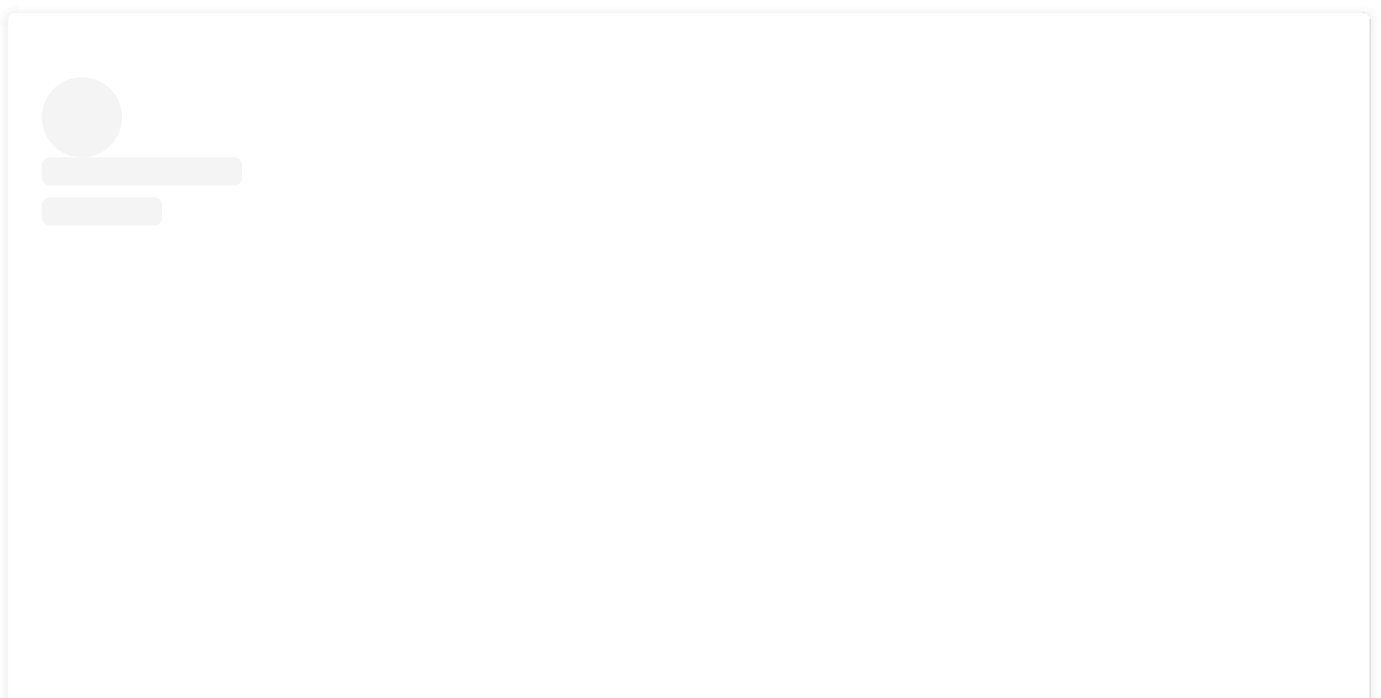
busy intersection

A man who is frequently seen wandering into busy intersections of New Bedford attempting to stop vehicles, is beginning to worry neighboring residents. In a video posted by an anonymous member of the New Bedford Facebook group, concern was raised over the mans safety.

“So I understand that a lot of people have said this man is harmless and clearly suffering from some mental health issues. However... how long before he gets seriously, seriously hurt from doing this? He tries to stop vehicles by getting in their direct path, and then begs for money.

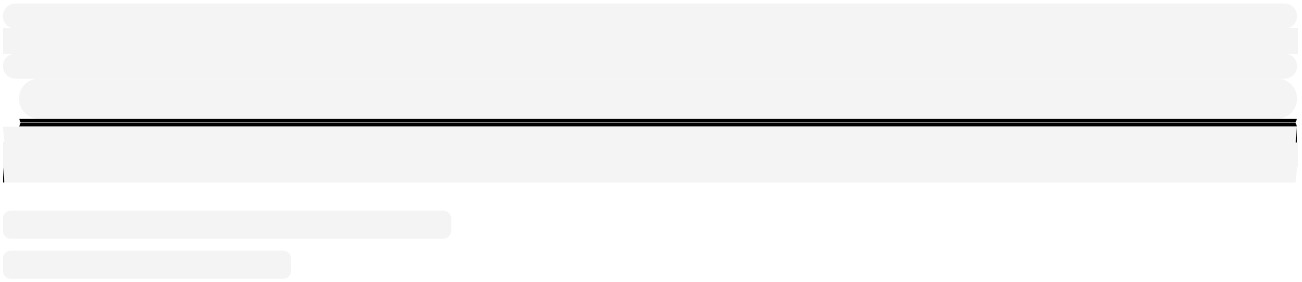
It’s a weekly occurrence. It always ends with the local business screaming at him, vehicles either screeching to a halt or speeding around him and running the intersection, and it’s going to either cause an accident or someone’s going to run him over – or someone will feel threatened enough by him approaching their vehicle and react (rightfully) aggressively.

Law enforcement is well aware, and they seemingly shrug it off. I don’t get it. He needs help or at the very least, better supervision.”





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