

# **BCSO's Captain, K9 'Tusko' graduate from tracking, narcotics detection academy**

"Congratulations to K9 Captain Jeff Williams and his partner K9 Tusko for graduating from their tracking and narcotics detection academy today!

The pair spent the last 12 weeks learning tracking patterns, scent detection, and strategic techniques to search motor vehicles, packages, and jail cells. Their efforts will ensure our facility remains safe for staff and inmates alike.

Congratulations Captain Williams and K9 Tusko. We are proud to have you on our team at the BCSO."-Bristol County Sheriff's Office.

**All photos by the Bristol County Sheriff's Office:**



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# Dartmouth man allegedly viewing porn, images of toddlers, 10-year-olds

“BOSTON, July 18, 2024 – A Dartmouth man was arraigned Wednesday in East Boston BMC after another passenger reported seeing disturbing photos and videos of prepubescent children on his phone during a flight from Nashville to Boston, Suffolk District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced.

JED COHEN, 74, of Dartmouth was charged with possession of child pornography, disseminating photographs of sexual or intimate parts of a child and paying for sexual conduct with a child under 18. Judge Debra DelVecchio ordered Cohen held on \$10,000 bail with home confinement including GPS monitoring if released. Cohen is due back in court on August 16 for a probable cause hearing.

At about 8:15 p.m. on Tuesday Massachusetts State Police were notified that a passenger on an inbound JetBlue flight from Nashville reported to flight crew that another passenger, later identified as Cohen, was viewing disturbing photos and having “sickening” text message conversations.

The witness said Cohen started this behavior before takeoff and was on his phone for most of the flight. Cohen was observed looking at multiple photos and videos of various girls, ranging from toddlers to around 10- and 11-year-olds.

The witness provided the flight crew with notes of his observations including “asking on WhatsApp: ‘how old a girl is’—‘answer was 4’—‘how young is she?’—‘she’s five dear, she’s all you need’—‘how much does it cost to (expletive) her for a

night?'"

A flight crew member also reported seeing two photos on Cohen's phone. One showed a clothed girl, around 10, with pigtails. The second was of another girl, a little older, naked from the waist up.

Troopers met the plane at Logan Airport and spoke to Cohen, who provided the passcode to unlock his phone. Troopers observed messages consistent with the witness's information. They found photos of underage girls in sheer lingerie, including a photo of a naked underage girl. Troopers also found a photo of a prepubescent girl performing sexual acts on an adult male, to which Cohen sent a message saying, "I love her."

Investigators found additional messages containing videos and photos of sexual acts between adult males and underage girls. One message contained Cohen inquiring about sexual encounters with a three-year-old at his condo for a fee.

"To call these allegations disturbing is a vast understatement. Sexual exploitation of any kind inflicts lifelong scars, and the harm increases exponentially when the victims are children. I thank this passenger for alerting the flight crew and I'm grateful for the crew's swift action in notifying authorities," Hayden said.

*All charged individuals are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.*

Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden's office serves the communities of Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop, Mass. The office handles over 20,000 cases a year. More than 160 attorneys in the office practice in nine district and municipal courts, Suffolk Superior Court, the Massachusetts Appeals Court, the Supreme Judicial Court, and the Boston Juvenile Courts.

The office employs some 300 people and offers a wide range of services and programs to serve anyone who comes in contact with the criminal justice system. This office is committed to educating the public about the services we provide, our commitment to crime prevention, and our dedication to keeping the residents of Suffolk County safe.”-Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden’s Office.

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## **12 states including Massachusetts hit by Listeria outbreak from deli meats**

“July 19, 2024: CDC, public health and regulatory officials in several states, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (USDA-FSIS) are collecting different types of data to identify the food source of a multistate outbreak of *Listeria monocytogenes* infections.

Epidemiologic information shows that many people in this outbreak report eating meats sliced at deli counters. We do not have information to show that people are getting sick from prepackaged deli meats.

### **Epidemiologic Data**

As of July 19, 2024, a total of 28 people infected with the outbreak strain of *Listeria* have been reported from 12 states (see map). Sick people’s samples were collected from May 29, 2024, to July 5, 2024 (see timeline). Of 28 people with information available, all have been hospitalized. One person got sick during their pregnancy and remained pregnant after recovering. Two deaths have been reported, 1 in Illinois and 1

in New Jersey.

The true number of sick people in this outbreak is likely higher than the number reported, and the outbreak may not be limited to the states with known illnesses. This is because some people recover without medical care and are not tested for *Listeria*. In addition, recent illnesses may not yet be reported as it usually takes 3 to 4 weeks to determine if a sick person is part of an outbreak.

Public health officials collect many different types of information from sick people, including their age, race, ethnicity, other demographics, and the foods they ate in the month before they got sick. This information provides clues to help investigators identify the source of the outbreak.

The table below has information about sick people in this outbreak (“n” is the number of people with information available for each demographic).

<b>Demographics</b>	<b>Information</b>
<b>Age</b> (n=27)	Range from 32 to 94 years Median age of 75
<b>Sex</b> (n=28)	46% female 54% male
<b>Race</b> (n=22)	72% White 23% African American/Black 5% Asian
<b>Ethnicity</b> (n=22)	96% non-Hispanic 4% Hispanic

State and local public health officials are interviewing people about the foods they ate in the month before they got sick. People are reporting eating a variety of meats sliced at deli counters. Of the 18 people able to be interviewed, 16 (89%) reported eating meats sliced at a deli, most commonly deli-sliced turkey, liverwurst, and ham. Meats were sliced at a variety of supermarket and grocery store delis.

CDC conducted an analysis comparing foods reported by people in this outbreak to foods reported by people who got sick with *Listeria* but were not part of an outbreak. The analysis showed that people in this outbreak were more likely to eat deli-sliced turkey and liverwurst. This information suggests that meats sliced at the deli are a likely source of this outbreak. However, at this time CDC doesn't have enough information to say which deli meats are the source of this outbreak.

## **Laboratory and Traceback Data**

Public health investigators are using the PulseNet system to identify illnesses that may be part of this outbreak. CDC PulseNet manages a national database of DNA fingerprints of bacteria that cause foodborne illnesses. DNA fingerprinting is performed on bacteria using a method called whole genome sequencing (WGS).

WGS showed that bacteria from sick people's samples are closely related genetically. This suggests that people in this outbreak may have gotten sick from eating this food.

USDA-FSIS is working to identify the suppliers of deli meats, sliced at deli counters, purchased by people in this outbreak.

## **Public Health Actions**

CDC advises people who are pregnant, aged 65 or older, or have a weakened immune system to contact their healthcare provider if they have any *Listeria* symptoms. Additionally, CDC advises people to take steps to protect themselves from getting *Listeria* from deli meats by avoiding eating meats sliced at the deli unless they are heated before eating."

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# VIDEO: Former Weymouth Police Officer Sentenced for Assaulting a Man During an Arrest

A former Weymouth Police officer was sentenced today for assaulting a man in custody by punching the victim multiple times without legal justification.

*Massachusetts officer who punched a handcuffed man 13 times in the face gets 2 years supervised release, with the first 6 months under house arrest [pic.twitter.com/iRmtgVvFCE](https://pic.twitter.com/iRmtgVvFCE)*

*– Insane Reality Leaks (@InsaneRealitys) July 18, 2024*

Justin Chappell, 43, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Allison D. Burroughs to two years' supervised release, with the first six months to be served in home confinement. Chappell was also ordered to complete 40 hours of community service per year of supervised release, for a total of 80 hours. In April 2024, Chappell pleaded guilty to one count of deprivation of rights under color of law.

On July 2, 2022, Chappell was a police officer for the Weymouth Police Department. While on duty, he responded to a call regarding an allegedly intoxicated man causing a disturbance at a home in Weymouth. Chappell placed the man under arrest, and while attempting to put the man in the police cruiser, Chappell punched the man approximately 13 times with a closed fist without legal justification. The punches caused obvious pain and visible injuries to the man's head.

Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy and Jodi Cohen, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division made the announcement today. Valuable assistance was provided by the Weymouth Police Department and the Norfolk County District Attorney's Office. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Torey B. Cummings and Neil J. Gallagher Jr. of the Criminal Division prosecuted the case.

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## **37-year-old New Bedford cocaine trafficker sentenced to prison**

"A 37-year-old New Bedford cocaine trafficker arrested while also in possession of an illegal gun was sentenced this week to serve eight to 10 years in state prison, Bristol County District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn III announced.

Johan Baez pleaded guilty in Fall River Superior Court to indictments charging him with trafficking cocaine, carrying an illegal firearm-subsequent offense, possession of a high capacity feeding device, possession of ammunition and possession with intent to distribute marijuana.

The defendant and his apartment, 336 Purchase Street New Bedford, were the targets of an August 2021 search warrant for drugs. When police executed the search warrant, they found a kilogram of cocaine. Police then recovered a high-capacity magazine containing 12 rounds (13 max) and \$3,800 in the defendant's bedroom.

Inside the defendant's vehicle, police seized a pound of marijuana, several THC vape pens, a 40 caliber handgun and a



second loaded magazine.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Russ Eonas and the state prison sentence was imposed by Judge Sharon Donatelle.

“The defendant was in possession of a large amount of drugs and a firearm, which is a very dangerous combination. Based on his record, a substantial state prison sentence was warranted,” District Attorney Quinn said.”-Bristol County District Attorney’s Office.

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## **City of New Bedford roadwork sites for the upcoming week of July 22, 2024 – July 26, 2024**

The City of New Bedford has roadwork sites for the upcoming week of July 22, 2024 – July 26, 2024, and they are as follows:

**Eversource crews will be on these streets to work on Main Relay & Services:**

- Services on Acushnet Ave. from Bowles St. to 3082 Acushnet Ave.
- Main Relay on Lucy St. from Acushnet Ave. to Bartlett St.
- Main relay on Church St. from Belleville Rd. to Park Ave.
- Services on Seymour St. & Bayview St. from W. Rodney

French to Point St.

- Services on Central Ave. from Ashley Blvd. to Conduit St.
  
- Main Relay on County St. from Rivet St. to Grinnell St
- Main Relay on Braley Rd. from Acushnet Ave. to Route 140 on ramp.
- Main Relay on Parker St. from Spencer St. to Cottage St.
- Main Relay on Walnut St. from Acushnet Ave. to S. Second St.

For more information about this project, please call the project information hotline at 1-833-836-0302 or email [ProjectInfoMA@eversource.com](mailto:ProjectInfoMA@eversource.com) to join the email list for regular construction and community updates.

**Other:**

- Contractor (PA Landers) will continue work at Hazelwood Park
- Contractor (PA Landers) will continue work at the road reconstruction project of Commercial Street from S. Water Street to terminus.
- Contractor (JH Lynch) will be working on the MassDOT road reconstruction project at the intersection of Rockdale Avenue at Allen Street to complete minor cleanup operations of the site.
- Contractor (PA Landers) will continue work at the road reconstruction project of West Rodney French Boulevard from Cove Street to George Street.
- Contractor (PA Landers) will continue work at the road reconstruction project of Elm Street from JFK Memorial Highway (Route 18) to Purchase Street.
- Contractor (SCR) will be working at the railroad grade crossing on Kings Highway from Tarkiln Hill Road to Worcester Street.

- Contractor (SCR) will continue sidewalk work, along the east side of Purchase St, from the Rt. 18 Purchase Street ramp to Pearl Street
- Contractor (K5) will be painting pavement markings at various locations throughout the city from 8:00 pm to 6:00 am
- Contractor (SCR Constructors) will continue site work at the future South Coast Rail station platform locations in the city. (Church Street at Carlisle Street and Wamsutta Street at Acushnet Avenue.) and continue site work at the future pedestrian bridge across Rte. 18 impacting parking along Purchase Street between Willis Street and Pearl Street and at the Division of Career Services on Acushnet Avenue. If you have questions, please email the project team at [SouthCoastRail@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:SouthCoastRail@dot.state.ma.us)
- Milling and Paving next week 7/22/24 – 7/26/24
- Acushnet Ave – Tobey St to Sassaquin Ave
- Sassaquin Ave – Tobey St to Acushnet Ave
- Pequot St- Acushnet Ave to Tobey St
- Cherokee St – – Acushnet Ave to Tobey St
- June St – Acushnet Ave to End

**Project: Lead Service Line Replacement Program Phase II**  
**General Contractor: C. Naughton Corp. (Monday-Wednesday) 7:00 am to 5:00 pm**

**The Contractor will be replacing lead water services along Lucas Street between Brock Avenue and Rodney French Boulevard.**

**(Thursday-Friday) 7:00 am to 5:00 pm**

**The Contractor will be placing temporary bypass piping along Carroll Street between Rockdale Avenue and Brigham Street.**

**(Friday) 7:00 am to 5:00 pm**

The Contractor will be replacing lead water services along Allen Street between Rockdale Avenue and Byron Street.

At times during working hours, road sections may be closed to thru traffic with signs posted to detour traffic around work areas. Police details will be on-site allowing access to residents only and assisting with traffic management.

Project: Shawmut Avenue and Howland Street Pumping Station Improvements Project General Contractor: WES Construction Corp. (Monday-Friday) 7:00 am to 4:00 PM

Contractor will continue installation of granite curb and concrete driveway aprons /sidewalk placement along Nash Rd between Shawmut Ave and Mt. Pleasant St. Lane restrictions may be in place during working hours, with one lane of alternating traffic open. Police details will be on-site to assist with traffic management.

The contractor will be excavating test pits and installing a wastewater access manhole at the South Second St and Howland St intersection. There will be a detour in effect via Grinnell St to Purchase St and returning to Howland St. Signage will be posted and police details will be on-site to assist with traffic management.

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# **“Significant Part” Of Massachusetts Offshore Wind Blade Drops Into Atlantic**

By Michael P. Norton, State House News Service

The multi-day clean energy project failure south of the

islands is worsening, with developers at Vineyard Wind reporting Thursday that a “significant part” of a huge, damaged and dangling wind blade has detached and dropped into the Atlantic Ocean.

“This morning, a significant part of the remaining GE Vernova blade detached from the turbine,” Vineyard Wind said in a statement released at 11:20 a.m. “Maritime crews were onsite overnight preparing to respond to this development, though current weather conditions create a difficult working environment. Despite these challenging weather conditions, a fleet of vessels remains at sea managing the situation and working to remove bulk debris. We have deployed additional crews to Nantucket Island in anticipation that more debris could wash ashore tonight and tomorrow as we continue to monitor additional coastal communities.”

Project officials announced the potential for the blade to detach during a Nantucket Select Board meeting on Wednesday night where outraged islanders expressed alarm at the infrastructure waste that’s washing ashore and concerns about the future of wind projects.

In its Thursday statement, Vineyard Wind said it was “staying apprised of GE Vernova’s efforts to manage the situation, including the removal and recovery of the remaining blade attached to the turbine. With public officials, we will continue to keep the islands informed of developments as we work closely with state, federal, local, and tribal partners to respond to this evolving situation, with the safety of our personnel, the public, and the environment as our highest priority.”

The company advised anyone who finds debris to contact its reporting hotline: 833-609-5768.

Vineyard Wind waited until Monday afternoon to publicly disclose that one of its 107-meter wind blades was damaged on

Saturday night, an incident that led to extensive blade debris and subsequent cleanup efforts that are continuing.

The incident is under investigation but no preliminary conclusions have been released about its cause.

At the select board meeting Wednesday, Vineyard Wind CEO Klaus Moeller described an alarm that tripped Saturday night.

“One of the blades on one of the positions was broken and folded over, bended over, and was not pointing in [the] direction that it should,” he said. “The way the system acts, it’s an automatic system, so the system actually shuts it down. And that’s what happened here.”

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## **New Bedford man sentenced for rape of 3-year-old, attacking mother**

“A 31-year-old New Bedford man was convicted last week by a jury of his peers of raping a 3-year-old girl and was sentenced to serve 20 to 25 years in state prison, Bristol County District Attorney Thomas M. Quinn III announced.

Allen Beckwith was convicted after a jury trial in Fall River Superior Court of Aggravated Rape of a Child, Domestic Assault and Battery and Witness Intimidation.

During trial it was proven that on November 27, 2021 the rape victim’s mother walked in on her boyfriend (the defendant) engaging in oral sex with the young girl at a New Bedford apartment they shared. When asked what happened, the toddler immediately told her mother what the defendant had done to

her.

The mother attempted to call 911, but was attacked by the defendant in an effort to get the phone away from her.

The trial was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Matthew Lopes and Jennifer Schmidt. The state prison sentence was imposed by Judge Susan Sullivan.

“The defendant engaged in despicable conduct by raping a defenseless little girl. At the time he committed this abhorrent act he was on probation for setting fire to industrial material in Barnstable. This defendant clearly is a danger to the community and does not seem to be someone who is capable of being rehabilitated. The defendant even continued to threaten the victim and her mother after the court sentenced him,” District Attorney Quinn said.”-Bristol County District Attorney’s Office.

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## **New Bedford Police arrest Brockton fugitive on firearm, narcotics charges**

“**New Bedford, MA** – Narcotics detectives have taken a wanted male into custody and seized an illegal firearm and narcotics in the process.

On the evening of July 17<sup>th</sup>, narcotics detectives who were monitoring suspected drug activity conducted a traffic stop near the County Street/Cedar Grove intersection. The vehicle’s driver was identified as ERMIRIO ROSA, 23, of Brockton.

Upon further investigation, it was discovered the ROSA was in possession of a 9mm Ruger handgun loaded with 17 rounds of ammunition, which he was keeping in a fanny pack. ROSA was also found to be in possession of 25 grams of "crack" cocaine, 65 grams of fentanyl, 50 tablets of Adderall, and \$1050 in cash. This money was later seized due to the nature of his charges.

In addition, ROSA was found to have three active warrants for his arrest: One for drug and firearm charges out of Brockton District Court, one for heroin trafficking out of Bristol County Superior Court, and one for traffic offenses out of Fall River District Court. He already has a previous conviction for possessing class A substance with intent to distribute out of Taunton District Court, which could enhance penalties for additional cases.

Det. Emily Pacheco was the arresting officer.

If you have any information you would like to provide to police, you can do so anonymously by either calling 508-99-CRIME or submitting a tip on our website, <https://www.newbedfordpd.com/report/>."-City of New Bedford Police Department.





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## **Fall River accident claims life of Dartmouth woman**

“A 67-year-old Dartmouth woman was killed and a 64-year-old Bristol, RI man was hospitalized after they were struck by a box truck on Joseph Drive in Fall River yesterday.

At around noon on Wednesday, the two victims, the driver of the box truck, and three others were at 214 Joseph Drive to pick up a dresser. The six individuals were all employees or volunteers for the non-profit organization known as My Brother's Keeper, which organizes drop offs and pick-ups of donated furniture.

The preliminary investigation reveals that the driver of the box truck, a 25-year-old Taunton woman, backed the truck up and struck two volunteers who were behind it.

The deceased victim has been identified as Jean Revil. The injured male was last listed in critical but stable condition this morning at Saint Luke's Hospital in New Bedford.

The matter remains under investigation by Massachusetts State Police detectives assigned to the district attorney's office and Fall River Police."-Bristol County District Attorney's Office.