



**POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

INCIDENT TYPE:	DATE/TIME REPORTED:	
Unlawful mischief; assault x 3 and disorderly conduct	06/01/2019 2200; 06/01/2019 2111	
INCIDENT NUMBER:	LOCATION:	
19BU011077; 19BU011079	Church Street; Pearl Street and N Winooski Avenue	
AUTHOR:	APPROVED BY:	
DC Murad	Chief del Pozo	
SUSPECT:	AGE:	SUSPECT ADDRESS:
Jerry Lee Hoffman	26	North Avenue, Burlington
SUSPECT DISPOSITION:		
Arrested for Simple Assault x 3, in violation of Title 13 V.S.A. 1023; Disorderly Conduct x 2, in violation of Title 13 V.S.A. 1026; and Unlawful Mischief in violation of Title 13 V.S.A 3701.		

**NARRATIVE:**

At approximately 10:00 PM on Saturday night, an intoxicated man assaulted numerous people at several locations downtown.

Officers were originally dispatched to Ken’s Pizza following several 911 calls saying that a man, later identified as Jerry Lee Hoffman, 26, was reportedly smashing property and attempting to assault people. Mr. Hoffman was gone when officers arrived, but left a path of disorder in his wake as he moved towards Pearl Street and North Winooski Avenue. Neighbors pointed out his direction of travel to officers as they searched for him.

Mr. Hoffman entered Duino Duende where he asked the manager to use a bathroom and she allowed him to do so. When he exited the bathroom, he sat down with a table of diners he did not know. The manager advised him that was inappropriate and Mr. Hoffman allegedly complained aggressively that he was always treated like an outsider and had nowhere to go. The manager related that she said “I’m so sorry you feel that way,” and tried to suggest places he could go. At that point Mr. Hoffman allegedly punched her in the head. Another staff member attempted to intercede and Mr. Hoffman allegedly struck him as well. Mr. Hoffman ran outside, allegedly knocking people over as he fled. He also allegedly punched another woman who happened to be walking past Radio Bean at that time; she stated, “He looked me in the eye and punched me in the head.” There were multiple other witnesses to the disorder.



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Officers arrived on scene at approximately 10:15 and observed Mr. Hoffman fleeing north. Two officers chased him and cornered him in a private driveway a few houses north of Pearl Street. They pointed but did not deploy TASERs, and took Mr. Hoffman into custody at approximately 10:15 PM as he shouted slurs and expletives at them. No force other than pointing the TASERs was used.

Mr. Hoffman was transported to UVMMC where he became violent and attempted to kick fire fighters. Hospital security placed Mr. Hoffman in restraints. He was medically evaluated, released, and then taken to the Howard Center's Act One, which refused to treat him owing to his behavior. He was transported to the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility.

A check of Mr. Hoffman's criminal history showed he has one failure to appear, two felony charges with one conviction, seven misdemeanor charges with seven convictions, four assaultive crime charges with three convictions, one deadly weapon charge and two violation of parole charges. He has a long history of disorder and intoxication in the Middlebury, Vermont, area.