



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

MEDIA RELEASE

Late last night and early this morning, two incidents involving gunfire occurred in Burlington. The Burlington Police Department (BPD) believes the incidents are related and seeks information from neighbors in an effort to prevent additional incidents and potential escalation.

On Thursday, August 13, 2020, at approximately 2347 hours, BPD dispatch received multiple calls reporting a large fight accompanied by gunfire in Oakledge Park. Callers also reported vehicles fleeing the scene. Responding officers discovered blood and ballistics evidence, but did not encounter any victims, nor were any reports of gunshot victims received at the scene or from local emergency rooms. Officers spoke with multiple witnesses, many of whom were uncooperative. Other witnesses reported having observed a large gathering of young males with slim builds who appeared to be preparing to fight. Witnesses also reported seeing a handgun in at least one person's possession.

On Friday, August 14, 2020, at approximately 0442 hours, BPD dispatch received a call from a resident of a house at the north end of Plattsburg Avenue. The caller advised she had been awoken approximately an hour ago by the sound of gunshots and believed her house had been struck. Officers responded and collected evidence that indicated multiple rounds had struck and penetrated the house, including rounds that passed through interior walls directly over sleeping persons.

“Our ongoing investigation suggests a strong likelihood that these incidents are linked,” said Acting Chief Jon Murad, “and it appears that the second incident was retaliatory. Only chance prevented innocent people in that home from being struck by those bullets, and I urge anyone with knowledge of these incidents to help us prevent further escalation that might result in people being seriously hurt or worse.”

Neighbors with information about these incidents are asked to contact Detective Kratochvil at the Burlington Police Department at (802) 540-2308

Information is preliminary and subject to change.

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