



**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

MEDIA RELEASE

INCIDENT TYPE:	DATE/TIME REPORTED:	
Attempted Homicide	03/05/2021 0205 Hours	
INCIDENT NUMBER:	LOCATION:	
21BU002721	Walnut Street	
INVESTIGATOR:	INVESTIGATOR CONTACT:	
Detective Corporal Kratochvil	658-2704	
AUTHOR:	APPROVED BY:	
Chief Murad	Chief Murad	
SUSPECT:	AGE:	SUSPECT ADDRESS:
Zakaria Hassan	31	Burlington
SUSPECT DISPOSITION:		
Arrested and in custody.		

NARRATIVE:

On Friday, March 5, 2021, at approximately 0205 hours, Burlington Police Department dispatchers received a call about gunfire at a residence on Walnut Street. Responding officers discovered a female victim, who had been struck in the leg. Officers applied a tourniquet and called for medical assistance. The victim provided a description of a male suspect. Other neighbors stated that the suspect had been seen with a gun in his hand running from the scene. The victim was transported to the University of Vermont Medical Center where she currently remains in stable condition.

Canvassing officers located the suspect in a vehicle nearby and followed him. The suspect attempted to flee, and a short vehicle pursuit ensued but ended when the suspect crashed and rolled his vehicle on Riverside Avenue, colliding with trees immediately opposite the Burlington Wastewater Treatment Plant. Officers, led by a sergeant, tactically approached the vehicle with firearms drawn and confronted the suspect who was inside the vehicle. The suspect was not compliant and defied numerous commands to stop moving and to show his hands. At one point, the suspect was observed to have a firearm in his hand.

Ultimately the suspect exited the vehicle and officers used a conducted electrical weapon (CEW) to subdue him. The suspect was subsequently identified as Zakaria Hassan, 31. A firearm was recovered from his person. Mr. Hassan was medically evaluated on scene and cleared, but, upon

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returning to One North Avenue, he stated he was experiencing a medical event. He was taken to UVMMC for evaluation before being brought back to One North Avenue to be interviewed.

“I’m proud but unsurprised that officers apprehended Mr. Hassan so quickly and safely,” said acting Chief of Police Jon Murad. “They faced a noncompliant suspect who had allegedly shot someone, crashed a car while fleeing police, and then brandished a firearm even as officers surrounded him at gunpoint. In the midst of that they displayed professionalism and restraint and did the work our neighbors expect of us.”

This is an ongoing case. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the Burlington Police Department at (802) 658-2704.

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