



**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

MEDIA RELEASE - UPDATE

INCIDENT TYPE:	DATE/TIME REPORTED:	
Aggravated Assault and other crimes, pending	03/19/2021 1829 Hours	
INCIDENT NUMBER:	LOCATION:	
21BU003436	Peru Street and Murray Street	
INVESTIGATOR:	INVESTIGATOR CONTACT:	
Detective Corporal Stoughton	658-2704	
AUTHOR:	APPROVED BY:	
Chief Murad	Chief Murad	
SUSPECT:	AGE:	SUSPECT ADDRESS:
Loren Senna	37	Burlington, VT
SUSPECT DISPOSITION:		
Lodged at Northwest State Correctional Facility on a federal detainer		

NARRATIVE (see bottom for update):

At approximately 1829 hours on Friday, March 19, 2021, dispatchers at the Burlington Police Department received multiple calls about multiple gunshots heard in the area of Peru Street and Murray Street. Other callers reported vehicles leaving the scene at high rates of speed, including a white Jeep. Another caller reported that a vehicle had been sideswiped in the vicinity of Winooski Avenue and Pearl Street. Supervisors began deploying officers to several scenes: the location of the alleged gunfire, the location of the collision, the location of the apparent direction of flight. Supervisors also directed that dispatch request assistance from neighboring police agencies, asking them to cover bridges leading from Burlington into Winooski and South Burlington, and that they notify the University of Vermont Medical Center in case parties went to the emergency room.

Officers responding to Murray Street located multiple shell casings and witnesses. The shell casings were consistent with 5.56 mm rounds, most frequently associated with AR-15-style firearms platforms. Over last night and this morning, officers, detectives, and crime-scene technicians would discover two separate scenes where rounds had been discharged, at Allen Street and Murray Street and at Peru Street and Murray Street. They would also locate a parked vehicle and nearby homes that had been struck, apparently by stray gunfire.

Information is preliminary and subject to change.



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Simultaneous to this, officers observed a white Jeep matching witness descriptions turn into the parking lot of the Howard Plant VFW Post 782 on South Winooski Avenue. One police cruiser approached the Jeep from its front, while a second police cruiser stopped behind the Jeep. At this point the Jeep moved rapidly in reverse and crashed into the second cruiser, rendering it inoperable. The officer operating it was not injured. The Jeep, which also sustained apparent damage in the crash, fled southbound on S Winooski Avenue. Pursuing officers lost sight of the vehicle as it fled, but continued to canvas the area.

Approximately an hour later, as several officers continued to collect evidence, interview witnesses, and canvass at the scene of the firearms discharge, other officers located the damaged and abandoned Jeep in the Bobbin Mill Apartments parking lot, on Pine Street. Supervisors deployed officers to secure the vehicle and additional officers to work with a South Burlington K9 officer to conduct a canine track. The track was ultimately unsuccessful.

Detectives connected the vehicle to a residence in South Burlington. Partners in the South Burlington Police Department monitored the house and ultimately observed and stopped two suspects in a vehicle. The suspects were discovered to be in possession of a large quantity of narcotics and a firearm. They were taken into custody and one, Loren Senna, 37, has been identified as the suspect in the shooting incident.

“From the first report of shots fired, officers and detectives had a suspect in custody within three hours,” said acting Chief of Police Jon Murad. “That’s remarkable. It’s also remarkable that, as far as we currently know, no one was hurt in this incident—and thankfully that includes the officer whose cruiser was struck. Nevertheless, I’m concerned by the type of weapon apparently used, and by the fact that, over the past year, Burlington has seen a troubling uptick in shootings and shooting incidents. But I remain confident in our department. Officers handled multiple scenes and multiple roles: canvasses for the vehicle and the suspect; a K9 track; interviews with multiple witnesses; scene security at several locations; evidence collection and video canvasses at several locations; coordination with several partner agencies. And during all this, officers were still being asked to respond to other incidents, as well, such as building alarms, runaways, vehicle crashes, an allegedly suicidal man at a local hotel, a DUI-related crash and arrest. Last night, the men and women of the BPD answered the calls.”

Police anticipate charging Mr. Senna with a variety of crimes, but this is an ongoing investigation and affidavits are pending. The Burlington Police Department does not currently

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know of any injured parties associated with this incident, but it remains an open investigation. Anyone with any information about the incident, the suspect, or the possible occupants of the other vehicle(s) is asked to contact Detective Stoughton at (802) 658-2704.

UPDATE:

The Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Vermont stated that Loren Senna, 37, of Burlington, Vermont, has been charged by federal complaint with possessing with intent to distribute 28 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing cocaine base. Senna is scheduled to appear remotely this afternoon for an initial appearance before the Hon. Kevin J. Doyle, United States Magistrate Judge. Please see the USAO-VT's press release on the matter for additional information.

The Burlington Police Department is releasing photographs of the police cruiser that was struck and disabled during the incident. The Department is also releasing a photo of a firearm recovered during subsequent searches that we believe to be associated with this incident.

This remains an ongoing investigation, and the Burlington Police Department continues to collect evidence and anticipates developing additional state and federal charges.

“I am tremendously thankful for the assistance of local and federal partners,” said acting Chief of Police Jon Murad. “From the excellent work by South Burlington police to the on-scene help from federal law enforcement to the charges offered by the Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Vermont, BPD is grateful to be part of such a strong law-enforcement team.”

The Burlington Police Department asks anyone with any information about the incident, the suspect, or the possible occupant(s) of the other vehicle to contact Detective Stoughton at (802) 658-2704.

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