



**POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

INCIDENT TYPE:	DATE/TIME REPORTED:	
1 <sup>st</sup> Degree Aggravated Domestic Assault with a Weapon	03/18/2021	
INCIDENT NUMBER:	LOCATION:	
21ES01257; 21BU003722; 21BU004285		
INVESTIGATOR:	INVESTIGATOR CONTACT:	
Corporal Christopher Sweeney	658-2704	
AUTHOR:	APPROVED BY:	
Cpl. Sweeney	Acting Chief Murad	
SUSPECT:	AGE:	SUSPECT ADDRESS:
Graham Cassinell	41	
SUSPECT DISPOSITION:		
Currently incarcerated		

**NARRATIVE:**

On March 18, 2021, the Essex, Vermont, Police Department took a report of a domestic assault that occurred in Essex in which Graham Cassinell, 41, allegedly threatened the life of a person at gunpoint. As a result of their investigation, the Essex Police Department took Mr. Cassinell into custody and he was charged with 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Aggravated Assault with a Weapon, Interference with Access to Emergency Services, and Disturbing the Peace by Phone. Mr. Cassinell is a previously convicted felon who is prohibited from possessing firearms.

On March 25, 2021 the Chittenden County State's Attorney Office requested assistance from the Burlington Police Department's Domestic Violence Prevention Officer, Corporal Christopher Sweeney, in following up on this case. The BPD investigation concluded that Mr. Cassinell, a previously convicted felon who is prohibited from possessing firearms, was in possession of or had access to firearms at properties in the Burlington area and in Washington County, Vermont. In coordination with game wardens from the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife and agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and, as well as other local partners, a search warrants was executed in Washington County, Vermont, on April 7, 2021. This led to the recovery of 17 firearms as well as numerous magazines and significant quantities of ammunition.

*Information is preliminary and subject to change.*



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“This case illustrates the importance of mutual-aid relationships with local and federal law-enforcement partners and our State’s Attorney’s office,” said acting Chief of Police Jon Murad. “It also illustrates the great value of having a dedicated Domestic Violence Prevention Officer who can dig more deeply into these cases than patrol officers can.”

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

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