



**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

MEDIA RELEASE

INCIDENT TYPE:	DATE/TIME REPORTED:
Aggravated Assault	09/17/2023 2201 Hours
INCIDENT NUMBER:	LOCATION:
23BU021622	City Hall Park
INVESTIGATOR:	INVESTIGATOR CONTACT:
Corporal Orfant	(802) 540-2357

NARRATIVE:

On Sunday, September 17, 2023, at approximately 2201 hours, dispatchers with the Burlington Police Department received a report about a man in City Hall Park, allegedly threatening people with a large machete.

Responding officers encountered the man exiting the public toilet with the machete in hand. He identified himself as “the son of God” and stated that the machete was the “Blade of Jesus.” Officers identified the man from several recent law-enforcement interactions and he confirmed his name. Officers were able to negotiate with him so that he relinquished the machete as well as a compound bow and arrows that he carried. The alleged victim was no longer in the area, and without a complainant officers could not effect an arrest.

Based on the man’s history and the nature of other recent interactions, the officers requested the assistance of Howard Center’s First Call, which specializes in crisis intervention and assessment, referrals to appropriate services, and connection to follow-up care. First Call personnel advised they had assessed the man earlier in the day and did not believe him to be a danger to himself or others.

Officers could not continue custody of the man, but seized his weapons as evidence. They will continue to attempt to find the alleged victim and investigate this incident.

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

Information is preliminary and subject to change.

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