



**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

MEDIA RELEASE

INCIDENT TYPE:	DATE/TIME REPORTED:	
Attempted Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Gross Negligent Operation, Disorderly Conduct, Resisting Arrest, Leaving a Scene of an Accident, Eluding Police Officer while operating in a grossly negligent manner, and Impeding a Public Officer.	05 June 2024 at approximately 1444 hours	
INCIDENT NUMBER:	LOCATION:	
24BU011883	Colchester Ave and Barrett St	
INVESTIGATOR:	INVESTIGATOR CONTACT:	
Cpl. Cousins #284	(802) 540-2284	
AUTHOR:	APPROVED BY:	
LT. Michael Henry	Deputy Chief Labarge	
SUSPECT:	AGE:	SUSPECT ADDRESS:
Thomas Burke	41	Colchester, VT
SUSPECT DISPOSITION:		
Thomas Burke was taken into custody and charged with Attempted Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Negligent Operation (x2), Resisting Arrest, Leaving a Scene of an Accident, and Impeding Public Officers. Burke was lodged at NWCF on \$25,000 bail.		

Investigation is still pending and this is preliminary information being released and is subject to change pending new information or leads.

NARRATIVE:

On 05 June 2024, at approximately 1444 hours, the Burlington Police Department's Dispatch Center received a third party call regarding an active domestic assault in progress. The caller stated an individual known to them stated the assault was taking place on Riverside Avenue in the parking lot of Cumberland Farms, located at 454 Riverside Avenue, in the City of Burlington, VT.

Officers arrived on scene and spoke to witnesses while other Officers canvassed the area for the suspect vehicle as it fled prior to Officers' arrival. Officers had prior knowledge of the suspect vehicle based on a Be On the Lookout (BOL) that was issued to local law enforcement agencies by the Colchester Police Department.

Information is preliminary and subject to change.

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Officers located the suspected vehicle in the rear parking lot of Domino's Pizza. Officers attempted to make contact with the vehicle when a male later identified as Thomas Burke, age 41, got into the driver's seat, and exited the parking lot at a high rate of speed. As Burke's vehicle exited the parking lot in a negligent manner, he almost struck an Officer who had arrived in a marked police cruiser with its blue lights activated. Burke then continued to operate the motor vehicle at a high rate of speed. Ultimately, Burke crashed his vehicle into several vehicles that were stopped at the traffic light. Burke exited the vehicle in possession of a hammer refusing verbal commands from the Officers. Burke then fled on foot behind residential buildings which led to a short foot pursuit. Burke stopped, turned towards Officers still in possession of the hammer, and took a fighting stance. Burke made threats towards Officers and threats of self-harm.

Officers deployed less lethal impact munitions (LLIMs). Burke was struck, causing him to drop the hammer, and he was taken into custody without further incident. The Burlington Fire Department transported Burke to the University of Vermont Medical Center's Emergency Department (UVMCC ED) for medical evaluation.

It was later learned that Burke was involved in multiple vehicle pursuits by neighboring law enforcement agencies.

Burke was transported to Northwest Correctional Facility and lodged on \$25,000 bail. Burke will be arraigned in court tomorrow at 0830 hours to answer to Attempted Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Grossly Negligent Operation, Disorderly Conduct, Resisting Arrest, Leaving a Scene of an Accident, Eluding Police Officer while operating in a grossly negligent manner, and Impeding a Public Officer.

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

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