



**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

MEDIA RELEASE

INCIDENT TYPE:	DATE/TIME REPORTED:	
Aggravated Assault	09/06/2019 2132 hours	
INCIDENT NUMBER:	LOCATION:	
19BU019749	Leddy Park Beach	
ARRESTING OFFICER:	AUTHOR:	
Officer Sawtelle	DC Murad	
SUSPECT:	AGE:	SUSPECT ADDRESS:
Karlotta Isham	47	Burlington
SUSPECT DISPOSITION:		
Arrested for attempted Aggravated Assault.		

NARRATIVE:

At approximately 2132 hours on Friday, September 6, 2019, Burlington Police received a call from a juvenile male, who stated that he had been approached on Leddy Park Beach by a woman who had threatened him and another juvenile with what appeared to be a shotgun or rifle. The woman appeared to be highly intoxicated, and placed both juveniles in fear for their lives. She swore at them and ordered them to get off the beach, while allegedly pointing the apparent firearm at them.

Officers responded and encountered the two juveniles, ages 16 and 17. Each was highly distressed, and each stated numerous times that he had thought he was going to die. The youths stated that they had been on the public beach, after hours and near a small fire, when a woman had approached them in the dark. They stated they had seen the woman before, on two occasions. Earlier in the evening they had moved farther down the beach at her request. In this third encounter, however, they alleged that she was carrying a shotgun or rifle and now appeared to be highly intoxicated. The woman allegedly swore at them loudly, claimed to be an officer, and pointed the apparent firearm at the boys. One boy immediately fled, but the second boy fell to the ground, face down and arms outstretched. He asked the woman what she wanted. She aggressively ordered him off the beach. In fear, he fled the beach in the dark without his shoes or belongings.

The juveniles provided a description of the woman, the weapon, and a general direction of travel. Owing to the report of a rifle or shotgun, officers deployed in the area with rifles and began a

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search of the beach and the immediately surrounding area. Officers discovered the remains of the fire on the public beach. Additionally, they found the boy's shoes in the fire. Through investigation, officers were able to determine the woman's location, in a house near Leddy Park. They made contact with the woman, identified as Karlotta Isham, 47, who made statements corroborating the juveniles' statements. Officers also recovered an imitation rifle or pellet gun. At that point, officers arrested the woman. She was brought to police headquarters for processing.

The juveniles were returned to their home. They will be issued tickets for Parks Ordinance 22-10, Fires Prohibited.

"I'm aware of the frustrations neighbors have regarding after-hours activity in the vicinity of Leddy Park and Leddy Park Beach," said Deputy Chief of Operations Jon Murad. "But neighbors in Burlington cannot take the law into their own hands and threaten people with firearms, imitation or not, over campfires. At Neighborhood Planning Assemblies and other venues, I've pledged that officers will respond when called. In this instance we received no calls about fires or any other violation on the beach—only a call for help from two terrified boys."

A judge approved the charge of Aggravated Assault and ordered that Ms. Isham be released to a family member. She will be arraigned on Monday, September 9.

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