

MEDIA RELEASE

INCIDENT TYPE:	DATE/TIME REPORTED:
Gunfire Incidents; Reckless Endangerment	05/23/2021 0308 Hours & 05/22/2021 0315 hrs
INCIDENT NUMBER:	LOCATION:
21BU007229, 21BU007140	Loomis Street and Isham Street
INVESTIGATOR:	INVESTIGATOR CONTACT:
Detective Kratochvil	658-2704
AUTHOR:	APPROVED BY:
Chief Murad	Chief Murad
SUSPECT:	AGE: SUSPECT ADDRESS:
Unknown	Unk Unknown
SUSPECT DISPOSITION:	
Seeking to identify and apprehend.	

NARRATIVE:

On early Sunday morning, May 23, 2021, at approximately 0308 hours, dispatch at the Burlington Police Department (BPD) received numerous calls about multiple gunshots and a male possibly shot in the head in the vicinity of Isham Street and Loomis Street. Other callers reported a large fight. Responding officers located ballistics evidence and blood, but no victim or victims. A canvass of local hospitals yielded no gunshot victims either. Police did locate three young men who exhibited injuries consistent with a physical fight. Two of these individuals were found near the scene. They were treated by the Burlington Fire Department (BFD). One was located at his place of residence and also exhibited head injuries consistent with an assault. He was transported to the University of Vermont Medical Center by BFD.

This incident followed a very large party that had occurred approximately an hour prior in the same vicinity. Shortly after 0100 hours, as many as 400 persons were in the streets in the area of Hickok Place, Isham Street, and Loomis Street. Police were initially unable to disperse the crowds, which were uncooperative and verbally resistant to officers. The use of loudspeakers and tickets eventually resulted in most partygoers leaving the scene at approximately 0154 hours.

During witness interviews today, it was confirmed that another gunfire incident had occurred early on Saturday morning, May 22, 2021, after a similarly large party on Isham Street. Police dispersing that party at approximately 0200 hours were met with thrown bottles and cans.

POLICE DEPARTMENT CITY OF BURLINGTON



Witnesses state a fight developed after police left the scene and a person fired a gun. That incident was recorded on Saturday morning at 0315 hours as 21BU007140; some callers would not meet and a single witness gave partial information about having seen a firearm discharged into the air. Today's interviews corroborated, confirmed, and built on that partial statement.

Although they occurred at similar times and at similar locations, it is not known if the two gunfire incidents are related.

All three of the injured individuals located on Sunday morning are known to the BPD and one is believed to be associated with a series of gunfire incidents from late summer 2020 that are still being investigated by the BPD. The BPD is seeking assistance from members of the public who may have witnessed any of these firearms discharges or who may have information about the circumstances around them or the people involved in them.

"Short staffed and stretched, Burlington's officers did excellent work in the pre-dawn hours," said acting Chief of Police Jon Murad. "They collected evidence, located and interviewed witnesses, and assisted injured parties in getting medical attention. They did it on behalf of our neighbors, and now we're asking our neighbors for help. Saturday morning's incident and Sunday morning's incident are the fourth and fifth gunfire incidents this year. No one wants bullets flying in Burlington, and everyone should want to work together to find ways to stop it. Public safety is a shared responsibility, and the BPD is seeking any and all information about these dangerous acts."

Anyone with information about these incidents or the incidents from August and September 2020 is asked to contact the Burlington Police Department at (802) 658-2704.

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