



Webster Police Department

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Michael D. Shaw
Chief of Police

Deputy Chief Toby M. Wheeler
Lieutenant Gordon D. Wentworth, Jr.

Community Committed

To: All Media Outlets

From: Chief Michael D. Shaw

Re: Pursuit and Drug Seizure

Date: May 15, 2019

On May 14th at about 10:30, Officer Michael Reardon was in the area of Harris and Elm Street responding to a report of a person or persons looking into parked vehicles when he observed a car drive past him with its high beams on. He signaled his high beams numerous times in an attempt to get the motorist to lower his, but was unsuccessful in doing so.

Officer Reardon then attempted to stop the car and it refused to pull over. He then initiated a brief pursuit through several intersections which the fleeing vehicle did not stop at. The pursuit culminated in the parking lot of the Webster Head Start program, which was closed due to the late hour.

The operator stopped his car at the far end of the lot, putting it into reverse so this would strike the cruiser, and then ran off into the woods. Officer Reardon was injured slightly as he was getting out of the cruiser to chase him on foot, due to the impact from the suspect's vehicle into the front of the cruiser.

The suspect ran in the woods, and was tackled by Officer Reardon as he tried to make his way back to his vehicle. This appeared to be an apparent attempt to leave. Officers Aaron Suss, Robert Rockwood, and Robert Ela assisted Officer Reardon in taking him into custody.

The operator was identified as Michael S. Freeman Jr. 27, 7 Hall Road in Oxford, MA.

From the shores of
Lake Chargoggagogmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

An inventory of the car revealed almost \$1,500 in cash which was seized, along with 53 grams of crack/cocaine, .68 grams of heroin, 24 suboxone sublingual films (for oral use under the tongue), several pills of Clonazepam and Alprazolam, and some unknown powdery substances which will be submitted to the State Police Crime Lab.

Also taken were several containers containing false bottoms and a scale, which are indicative of narcotics distribution.

Damage to both the police cruiser and Freedman's vehicle was minimal. Freedman was transported to Harrington Hospital in Webster for minor injuries from a preexisting injury that were aggravated during his arrest

Freeman was charged with the following:

Trafficking Cocaine over 36 grams

Two counts of Possession of a Class B substance with the intent to distribute.

Two counts of Possession of a Class C Substance

Possession of a Class B Substance to wit a subsequent offense

Possession of a Class C Substance to wit a subsequent offense

Drug Violation near a school zone/park

Failing to dim headlights

Operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license – to wit a subsequent offense

Negligent operation of a motor vehicle

Failing to stop for police

Resisting Arrest

Assault and Battery of a Police Officer

Assault and Battery with a Dangerous Weapon to wit a Motor Vehicle.

Mr. Freeman was released on \$540 bail and will be arraigned tomorrow in Dudley District Court.

