

I. INCIDENT OVERVIEW

During the evening of Thursday, July 8, 2021, through the early morning hours of Friday, July 9, 2021, the Providence Police Department received fourteen (14) separate complaints of Assault with a Dangerous Weapon (ADW). Complainants reported personal injury and/or property damage as a result of three (3) suspects traveling inside of a motor vehicle, who were firing projectiles at pedestrians and other motor vehicles operating on the roadways throughout the City of Providence. The suspect vehicle was first identified as a black Nissan Armada sport utility vehicle bearing Rhode Island passenger registration [REDACTED]. It should be noted that at the time of this incident, the aforementioned vehicle was reported stolen to the Providence Police Department on July 4, 2021.

At some point during the evening of Thursday, July 8, 2021, the suspects switched vehicles and began operating a black BMW convertible bearing Wyoming registration [REDACTED]. This vehicle was reported to be operating recklessly at a high rate of speed and repeatedly fled from marked police vehicles with their lights and sirens activated.

Please see the following complaints that were reported to the Providence Police Department in reference to this incident:

Thursday, July 8, 2021

- **20:16:20** – Patrolman Thiago Gomes, who was assigned to a construction detail located at Charles Street and Admiral Street, reported that the occupants of a black Nissan Pathfinder fired projectiles from the vehicle, which broke the window of a worker's vehicle at that location. The suspect vehicle fled outbound on Admiral Street.
- **20:17:11** – A male caller reported that he was on Whipple Street, when a black SUV approached his location. An occupant of the vehicle shot a projectile from inside the vehicle and struck him in the head. The caller believed the weapon may have been a possible BB gun. The caller reported that the vehicle was bearing Rhode Island passenger registration [REDACTED]. The suspect vehicle fled outbound on Douglas Avenue.
- **20:23:52** – Sergeant Michael Troia was at Roger Williams Hospital on a separate matter, when he was approached by a female party who stated an occupant of a large burgundy

colored sport utility vehicle pointed a rifle at her face as she was standing in front of the hospital located at 825 Chalkstone Avenue.

- **20:26:46** – A female caller reported that an occupant of a cranberry colored sport utility vehicle, threw an unidentified object at the windshield of her vehicle, causing it to shatter. The complainant reported that the vehicle was operating recklessly and identified the location of this incident as Carleton Street at Roanoke Street. The passenger inside the complainant's vehicle stated that she believed she heard a "gunshot" just prior to the windshield breaking.
- **20:29:55** – A complainant reported that he was located at 33 Dearborn Street and there were at least two (2) unidentified subjects on scene, who were shooting at him and his co-workers with possibly BB guns. The complainant stated that the subjects arrived in a black sport utility vehicle and subsequently began chasing the individuals around the yard of this commercial area, while shooting projectiles at them.
- **20:30:40** – A second complainant reported that he was located at 33 Dearborn Street and unidentified, young male subjects arrived at that location in a dark colored sport utility vehicle. The male subjects subsequently exited the vehicle and began shooting projectiles toward him and several other people on scene. The complainant believed that the weapons utilized by the unidentified male subjects were possibly BB guns or paintball guns. He described the subjects as young boys and that one (1) of the subjects was wearing a "durag" on his head and a light blue shirt. This subject was said to be in possession of a rifle and the complainant believed there were a total of three (3) subjects that exited the suspect vehicle.
- **20:49:32** – The Providence Fire Department contacted the Providence Police Department to advise that they were responding to 300 Manton Avenue, 2nd floor for a report of a male party who was shot in the face by a possible BB gun.
- **22:44:05** – E911 caller reported that he was attacked in Kennedy Plaza and fled toward the Garrahy Judicial Complex. No further information was provided.

Friday, July 9, 2021

- **00:49:15** – E911 caller reported that a vehicle is driving around in the area of Manton Avenue and Steuben Street with a rifle style weapon, possibly a BB gun. The occupants were pointing the rifle at individuals and shooting projectiles from the vehicle. The female caller further stated, "it's a rifle!" The caller stated that the suspect vehicle was a two (2)

door, three (3) series blue BMW with tinted windows. The female caller advised that the passenger was wearing a white shirt and that he was holding a rifle. She could not provide a description of the passenger but stated that the vehicle was traveling back and forth in the area of Manton Avenue. She stated that approximately twenty (20) minutes prior to this telephone call, the suspect vehicle had stopped in the middle of the roadway and pointed the rifle from the window of the vehicle. The caller reported that her parents were outside and observed a marked police cruiser attempting to stop the suspect vehicle.

- **01:05:06** – A complainant reported that there were three (3) young, male subjects in the area of Kennedy Plaza and two (2) of the male subjects were in possession of rifles, possibly BB guns, firing projectiles at individuals in that area. The caller stated that he was with a male party, who was struck by a projectile and bleeding from an injury sustained to his face. Rescue was refused and the injured party left the scene.
- **01:08:59** – Dispatch received a call from security personnel at Bank of America located at 100 Westminster Street, that a male occupant of a black convertible, exited the vehicle and began shooting projectiles at individuals in the area. The caller stated that he observed the suspect pump the rifle and believed it was possibly a BB gun. The caller stated that the suspect appeared to be a younger male and was wearing shorts with a white tank top. The suspect then got back into the black convertible and fled towards Memorial Boulevard on Washington Street.
- **01:09:39** – A Brown University Transportation supervisor called dispatch and reported that a shuttle driver was located at 10 Prospect Street (between George Street and College Hill), when she observed a black BMW convertible with four (4) occupants wearing masks, who were in possession of a rifle. The convertible top was down, and the female shuttle driver stated that one (1) of the occupants pointed the rifle at her.
- **01:18:57** – E911 caller reported that a vehicle with several young male occupants were driving around, while shooting possibly a pellet gun at individuals. The caller stated that she was struck in the face by a projectile and provided her location as the playground behind Hope High School on Brown Street and Olney Street. The caller provided the plate on the vehicle as Wyoming registration [REDACTED]. The suspect vehicle fled on Brown Street toward Olney Street.
- **01:23:13** – A male caller reported that three (3) male subjects, operating a dark colored convertible, exited the vehicle and attempted to “jump him” on Pratt Street. The caller advised that he was able to run away from the subjects.

At approximately 1:11 AM, Patrolman Mitchel Voyer broadcast over the police radio that earlier in the evening, the out-first shift had investigated several similar incidents of three (3) male parties shooting projectiles from possible BB guns at vehicles and individuals at construction sites. Patrolman Voyer advised that during these previous incidents, the suspects were operating in a burgundy colored sport utility vehicle, and he believed those suspects had switched vehicles at some point during the course of events, into the black BMW.

At approximately 1:22 AM, Lieutenant Matthew Jennette broadcast over the police radio that the complainant at Brown University stated that a rifle was pointed at her and the suspect vehicle was actively wanted in connection with a felony assault.

At approximately 1:26 AM, Patrolman John Najarian broadcast over the police radio that the convertible vehicle was bearing a Wyoming plate and the top on the vehicle was now down. Patrolman Najarian advised that there were possibly three (3) occupants inside the suspect vehicle. Patrolman Najarian further advised that one (1) of the occupants had turned around and pointed what appeared to be a firearm at him. He described the suspect as wearing a blue bandana on his head and no shirt. At that time, Patrolman Najarian began to pursue the vehicle.

At approximately 1:27 AM, Lieutenant Jennette broadcast over the police radio to ensure that Dispatch notified the surrounding communities and the State Police, to use extreme caution as the suspect vehicle was wanted for at least two (2) counts of Assault with a Dangerous Weapon (ADW), to include one (1) incident involving a police officer.

This reckless operation, showing a complete disregard for public safety, took place over the course of approximately forty (40) minutes, through residential and commercial districts in multiple jurisdictions. The suspect vehicle traveled on Route 146, Route 95, Route 195, Route 6, and secondary roadways throughout Providence, Pawtucket, and Johnston. At one point, the vehicle was operating the wrong way on School Street (one-way road) in the City of Pawtucket, traveling directly toward oncoming marked police cruisers.

The suspect vehicle continually operated at a high rate of speed, while failing to obey traffic control devices and stop signs. This reckless operation placed the general public at serious risk of physical injury or death. While traveling onto an on-ramp for Route 95 South in the City of

Pawtucket, the suspect vehicle struck a curb, causing the front passenger side tire to deflate and the vehicle continued to operate in a reckless manner, while traveling on three (3) wheels.

The pursuit ended at approximately 2:02 AM, when the suspect vehicle crashed into a fire hydrant located at the corner of Salmon Street and King Street in the City of Providence. It should be noted that the duration of time from the first complaint reported pertaining to the subjects, until the motor vehicle crash, was approximately five (5) hours and forty-seven (47) minutes.

Members of the Providence Police Department and the Pawtucket Police Department immediately surrounded the suspect vehicle and gave loud verbal commands for the occupants to show their hands. It should be noted that a review of the body worn camera video recordings revealed that at the time of the crash, the convertible roof of the BMW was retracted, and the tinted windows were up. The operator and the rear seat passenger placed both hands above their heads, but the front seat passenger did not show his hands. Due to the tinted windows, the movement of the front seat passenger could not be observed. The occupants were removed from the vehicle and subsequently placed into custody.

Due to the age of the suspects, they will be identified as follows:

- Front Seat Passenger – Juvenile 1 (DOB: [REDACTED])
- Operator – Juvenile 2 (DOB: [REDACTED])
- Rear Seat Passenger – Juvenile 3 (DOB: [REDACTED])

Shortly thereafter, Providence Fire Department's Emergency Medical Services personnel arrived on scene to assess the suspects for any injuries sustained as a result of the motor vehicle crash. Juvenile 2 and Juvenile 3 advised that they were not injured and refused any medical attention. Juvenile 1 was subsequently transported to Hasbro Children's Hospital for further evaluation. It should be noted that a review of the Providence Fire Department Patient Care Report revealed that Juvenile 1 sustained a minor abrasion to his nose and head. The assessment conducted by rescue personnel reported that Juvenile 1 was alert and uncooperative, as he refused to answer any questions during the medical assessment.