

NEW BEDFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT



871 ROCKDALE AVENUE • NEW BEDFORD, MA • 02740

P R E S S R E L E A S E

(PR - 2 - 6)

For Immediate Release

Tuesday, February 19, 2008

Lieutenant Jeffrey P. Silva

See Also: 2008-3067

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NEW BEDFORD MAN ARRESTED AFTER ARMED HOSTAGE STANDOFF

New Bedford, Massachusetts – New Bedford Police arrested David GONZALEZ (20 years old) of 13 Hall Street in New Bedford today after a tense hostage standoff and seized a replica sawed-off rifle as well as a replica semi-automatic handgun. GONZALEZ was charged with: (1) Assault & battery by means of a dangerous weapon; (2) Assault with intent to murder; (3) Kidnapping; (4) Intimidation of a witness; (5) Assault & battery upon a household member; and, (6) Disturbing the peace while armed. *(Many of these charges involve multiple counts as there were multiple civilian and police victims)*

The New Bedford Police 911 Communications Center received a call from a hysterical female who reported that she was being attacked by her 10 month old baby's father. She identified that male as David GONZALEZ. As the 911 call taker, New Bedford Police Cadet Matt Rodrigues, fielded the call he could hear the woman being attacked and GONZALEZ threatening to kill her and her family. The woman stated that she, her (10) month-old baby and an adult female friend had been held against their will for almost an hour by GONZALEZ and when she attempted to call the police, GONZALEZ went wild – screaming death threats, beating her and arming himself with what appeared to be a real sawed-off rifle and a semi-automatic handgun.

As all available units were sent to the house, tactical officers assigned to the Special Reaction Team as well as hostage negotiators were notified. As the standoff continued and the house was surrounded, Communications Supervisor, Sergeant Kelly Botelho began negotiating with GONZALEZ over the telephone to keep him from further harming the women or the baby and attempted to negotiate a peaceful surrender. As a result of Sergeant Botelho's efforts, the females and the baby were able to escape without further injury and GONZALEZ had agreed to surrender. Very shortly thereafter while speaking with a hostage negotiator, GONZALEZ exited the home and was taken into custody without incident.

Upon further examination, GONZALEZ's subsequent claims to the police that the guns were replica pellet guns, not actual firearms, were confirmed when the weapons were taken into custody by the police. GONZALEZ was arrested by Uniform Patrol Officer Scott West and brought to the Bristol County Ash Street Jail for detention. GONZALEZ is scheduled for arraignment on the above charges tomorrow morning in New Bedford 3rd District Court.



New Bedford Police

Media Report

PERSONS FILE Number:

245737

Name: **GONZALEZ, DAVID**



Photo Date: 2/19/2008

Race: WHITE
DOB: 06/07/1987
Age: 20
Sex: MALE
Eyes: BROWN
Hair: BLACK
Height: 68 INCHES
Weight: 220 LBS



Last known Address: 13 HALL ST
NEW BEDFORD

MA

Parole or Probation?:

