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INVESTIGATION LEADS TO ARRESTS INVOLVING LOADED FIREARM AND DRUGS

Detectives from the Lowell Police Departments Special Investigations Section were conducting surveillance in the area of Lincoln St. and Tanner St. this afternoon working on information regarding illegal drug sales by persons with access to firearms. At 12:45pm Detectives made observations of two men in a Ford Explorer operating in the area who then parked on Lincoln St. Detectives approached the vehicle and recognized the operator to be a **Manual Alicea, age 24 of Manchester NH** who is known to the Detectives and is currently under indictment in Middlesex Superior Court on firearms related charges. Alicea was found to be in possession of what is believed to be cocaine packaged for sale and a small amount of Marijuana. He was placed under arrest charged with **Unlawful Possession of a Class B Substance with Intent to Distribute**. The passenger from the Explorer was found to be in Possession of a handgun. Further inspection revealed it to be a .40 caliber, semi-automatic with large capacity magazine containing 10 rounds of ammunition. **Eduardo Marrero, age 24 of Lowell, is charged with Unlawful Carrying a Firearm, Unlawful Possession of Ammunition and Unlawful Possession of a Large Capacity Feeding Device**. Both men were transported to the Police Station for processing and will be arraigned tomorrow morning in Lowell District Court.

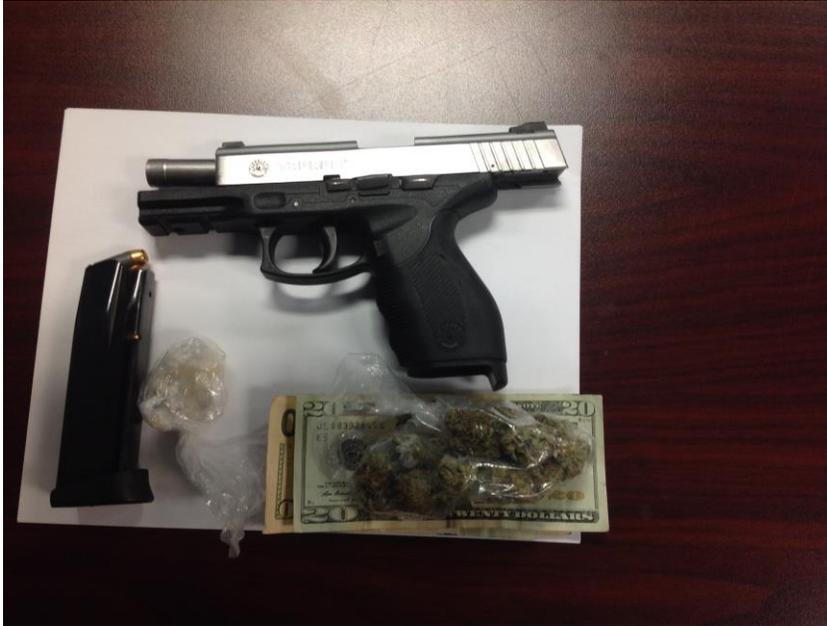


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