



William M. Taylor
Superintendent

Deborah Friedl
Deputy Superintendent

Jonathan C. Webb
Deputy Superintendent

**For Immediate Release
May 31, 2016**

Public Information Officer:

Captain Timothy Crowley
Office: (978) 674-1907
tcrowley@lowellma.gov

**NEW HAMPSHIRE MAN ARRESTED ON DRUG AND FIREARM CHARGES AFTER ASSAULTING
OFFICER AND BRIEF PURSUIT**

At 12:39pm this afternoon, the Lowell Police Department received a call from a witness reporting a man selling drugs and waving a handgun around from a vehicle parked in the Xtra-Mart gas station lot at the intersection of Gorham and Elm Sts. Motorcycle Officer Scott Sauve along with Officer Alexander Ramos entered the lot and observed the suspect vehicle with a male inside. Officer Sauve approached the man and engaged him in conversation requesting he come out of the vehicle. At one point while the driver's door was open the suspect, who refused to comply, made motions as if to be reaching for something from the center console area. Fearing that he may be reaching for the reported firearm, Officer Sauve grabbed his left arm at which point the suspect put the vehicle in gear and accelerated striking the officers arm as he fled. The vehicle fled with officers in pursuit and was abandoned near the rear of the Lowell Transitional Living Center as the suspect fled on foot. He was located in front of 189 Middlesex St. with the assistance of numerous officers and found to be in possession of more than 66 grams of suspected cocaine and a smaller amount of fentanyl. The firearm the suspect had discarded was located near a shed utilized by the LTLC. It is a loaded .380 caliber semi-automatic handgun containing 8 live rounds.

Arrested is: **Richard Ross age 33 of Nashua, NH. He is charged with Assault and Battery by Means of a Dangerous Weapon to wit Motor Vehicle, Failing to Stop for a Police Officer, Operating after Suspension, Speeding, Unlawful Possession of a Class B Substance-Fentanyl with Intent to Distribute, Trafficking in a Class B Substance-Cocaine more than 36 grams (Both School Zone Offenses), Unlawful Carrying a Firearm, Unlawful Possession of Ammunition and**



The City of Lowell • Police Department
JFK Civic Center • 50 Arcand Drive • Lowell, MA 01852
P: 978.674.4500 • F: 978.970.0455
www.LowellPolice.com

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Unlawful Possession of a Firearm with an Obliterated Serial Number. Ross is being held at the Lowell Police Station overnight and will be arraigned in Lowell District Court in the morning.

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