



Lincoln
Arrest Report

Arrest #: 22RIX4-598-AR
Call #: 22-37617
Warrant #: 22RIX4-50-WA
Incident #: 22RIX4-419-OF

Date/Time Reported: 06/24/2022 @ 2300
Arrest Date/Time: 06/25/2022 @ 1703
Booking Date/Time: 06/25/2022 @ 1703
Docket #: 22RIX4-50-WA
Involves: Organized Groups



Court: 6th District Court Room 4C
Court Date: 07/18/2022 @ 0900
Reporting Officer: TROOPER LINDSAY LAURIE
Booking Officer: TROOPER LINDSAY LAURIE
Approving Officer: Corporal ROBERT LAURELLI

Signature: _____
Released: 06/25/2022 @ 1704

Signature: _____

#	DEFENDANT(S)	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
1	LUGO, JEANN C 39 WAVERLY ST WARWICK RI 02886	M	W	35		401-699-████

Military Active Duty: N
HEIGHT: 508 WEIGHT: 180 HAIR: BLACK EYES: BROWN
BODY: NOT AVAIL. COMPLEXION: NOT AVAIL.
DOB: 03/24/1987 PLACE OF BIRTH: NOT AVAIL.
LICENSE NUMBER: RI 2417695 ETHNICITY: HISPANIC

[CONTACT INFORMATION]

Home Phone (Primary) 401-699-████

[APPEARANCE]

GLASSES WORN: NO

TATTOOS: TAT BACK(TRIBAL), TAT R CALF(STARWARS)

EMPLOYER/SCHOOL: THE PROVIDENCE POLICE DEPT
PROVIDENCE RI 02901

OCCUPATION: POLICE OFFICER

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#	DEFENDANT(S)	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
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[RIGHTS/BOOKING CHECKS]

RIGHTS ADVISED BY: TROOPER LINDSAY LAURIE DATE/TIME: 06/25/2022 @ 1535
PHONE USED: N
ARRESTEE SECURED: N

FINGERPRINTED: Y
PHOTOGRAPHED: Y
SUICIDE CHECK: Performed
PERSONS: State&Federal
WANTED BY: THE RHODE ISLAND STATE POLICE FOR AFFIDAVIT AND ARREST WARRANT

NCIC VEHICLE CHECK: Not Performed
INJURY OR ILLNESS: N

#	OFFENSE(S)	ATTEMPTED	TYPE
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LOCATION TYPE: Government/Public Building Zone: Lincoln Area
LINCOLN WOODS BARRACKS
82 SMITH ST
PROVIDENCE RI 02901

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|-------------|
| 1 | SIMPLE ASSAULT OR BATTERY
11-5-3 11-5 3 | N | Misdemeanor |
| | OCCURRED: 06/24/2022 2200 | | |
| 2 | DISORDERLY CONDUCT (FIGHTING/TUMULTUOUS BEHAVIOR)
11-45-1(A)(1) 11-45 1(A)(1) | N | Misdemeanor |
| | OCCURRED: 06/24/2022 2030 | | |

#	VICTIM(S)	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
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- | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|----|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | ROURKE, JENNIFER
RD
WARWICK RI 02886 | F | B | 40 | NOT AVAIL | 434-466-█ |
|---|--|---|---|----|-----------|-----------|

DOB: █
INJURIES: Apparent Minor Injury
ETHNICITY: Not of Hispanic Origin
RESIDENT STATUS: Non Resident
VICTIM CONNECTED TO OFFENSE NUMBER(S): 1 2
RELATION TO: LUGO JEANN Otherwise Known

#	PERSON(S)	PERSON TYPE	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
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- | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|-----------------|---|---|----|--|--|
| 1 | BARTHOLOMEW, WILLIAM
AVE
PROVIDENCE RI 02901
DOB: █ | REPORTING PARTY | M | W | 37 | | |
| | EMPLOYER: WPRO | | | | | | |

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#	PERSON(S)	PERSON TYPE	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
2	MELLO, JOSHUA J [REDACTED] ST Apt. #FIRST CRANSTON RI 02910 DOB: [REDACTED] EMPLOYER: [REDACTED] · 401-426-[REDACTED] CONTACT INFORMATION: Home Phone (Primary) 401-426-[REDACTED] CallBack Number (Primary) 401-426-[REDACTED] CallBack Number (Primary) 401-447-[REDACTED] CallBack Number 401-299-[REDACTED]	PARTICIPANT	M	W	47		401-426-[REDACTED]

#	OTHER PROPERTIES	PROPERTY #	STATUS
1	MELLO/ROURKE STATEMENT QUANTITY: 3 SERIAL #: NOT AVAIL DATE: 06/25/2022	22RIX4-244-PR	Evidence (Not Nibrs Reportable)
2	DVD FOOTAGE FROM STATE HOUSE QUANTITY: 1 SERIAL #: NOT AVAIL DATE: 07/01/2022	22RIX4-246-PR	Evidence (Not Nibrs Reportable)

On Saturday, June 25, 2022, I, Trooper Lindsay Laurie, was assigned to investigate a report of an alleged assault that took place during a protest at the Rhode Island State House located at 82 Smith Street, Providence, Rhode Island. I was then provided an audio/video recording of the assault by Sergeant Nuno Vasconcelos. The recording was taken and submitted by reporter Bill Bartholomew, DOB: [REDACTED] of WPRO. It should be noted that Mr. Bartholomew used his personal Iphone 10 in order to audio/video record portions of the protest. Please see 22RIX4-247-PR (audio and video recording of alleged assault), attached, for further information.

On Friday, June 24, 2022, the United States Supreme Court made the decision to overrule Roe v. Wade holding that there is no longer a constitutional right to abortion. As a result, a protest was planned by "Planned Parenthood Votes! Rhode Island," "Rhode Island Coalition for Reproductive Freedom," "The Womxn Project HQ," "SHIP," "Women's Fund of Rhode Island," and "Rhode Island Democratic Women's Caucus." One of the primary organizers for the protest was "The Womxn Project." "The Womxn Project" is described as a "non-profit organization focused on building a strong, feminist, community-based movement to further human rights." The preplanned protest was to be held at the southern plaza of Rhode Island State House beginning at 8:00 PM.

At 8:00 PM, a large crowd of protestors to include an unknown band, guest speakers and various news outlets started to gather at the Rhode Island State House. Also present were several anti-abortion protestors. At 8:40 PM, guest speaker Jennifer Rourke, DOB: [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Avenue, Warwick, Rhode Island completed her speech. Ms. Rourke is affiliated with "The Womxn Project" and is a candidate for Senate (District 29). Furthermore, Ms. Rourke openly supports women's rights and interracial marriage on her Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter social media platforms.

A review of the video submitted by Mr. Bartholomew showed a small pocket of protestors surrounding a Caucasian male in extreme close proximity. The Caucasian male was standing on the western, Francis Street, portion of the southern plaza, six steps below the first platform. The Caucasian male was later identified as Joshua Mello, DOB: [REDACTED]. He was wearing a black t-shirt with white paw prints.

While surrounded by several protestors, Mr. Mello was being argumentative while attempting to leave the State House grounds. Mr. Mello was holding a cellular telephone in his right hand while stating, "I'm leaving." Standing directly behind Mr. Mello was Ms. Rourke who was wearing a pink t-shirt and glasses. At the 0:54 mark in the video, Ms. Rourke is heard and seen attempting to reason with other protestors while ordering them to allow Mr. Mello to walk away, "Please let him go." At 1:12, Mr. Mello walked up the stairs and away from the other protestors (to the first platform).

At 1:20, an unknown male who was wearing a green Adidas track suit entered the cameras view and is captured striking Mr. Mello in the area of his head using his right elbow. The unknown male then struck Mr. Mello a second and third time with his right fist. Mr. Mello fell to the ground and is kicked and struck by the unknown male who is later seen fleeing the scene.

Immediately following the attack on Mr. Mello, the footage panned towards the right and recorded a secondary assault taking place within feet of the initial assault.

At 1:27, a male of average height/weight, who was wearing a gray t-shirt is captured facing Ms. Rourke. He was later positively identified as an off-duty Providence Police Officer, **Jeann Lugo, DOB: 03/24/2987 of 39 Waverly Street, Warwick, Rhode Island.** Mr. Lugo took a defensive stance, and “squares off” with Ms. Rourke who also put her hands up. Mr. Lugo then struck Ms. Rourke in the left side of her face using his right hand. Ms. Rourke was struck a second time in the area of her face by Mr. Lugo who used his left hand. At that time, a white male who was wearing a black t-shirt grabbed Mr. Lugo and guided him to the ground. It should be noted that portions of Mr. Lugo’s body were captured during the initial assault on Mr. Mello.

On June 25, 2022, at 10:00 AM, Ms. Rourke responded to the Rhode Island State Police Lincoln Woods Barracks for a formal statement. The interview was audio and video recorded, please see 22RIX4-244-PR, attached, for further information.

In her interview, Ms. Rourke explained that she is a speaker, organizer, and board member for “The Womxn Project.” According to Ms. Rourke, she responded to the State House at 8:00 PM in order to speak for and support “The Womxn Project.” She spent the majority of her time (at the protest) on the southside stairs of the State House. When an unknown band completed their setlist, Ms. Rourke approached them to thank them for their participation at the event. The band was located on the western portion of the southside stairs.

After speaking with the band, Ms. Rourke’s attention was drawn to a crowd of protestors surrounding Mr. Mello. Ms. Rourke stated to me that she approached the area and was actively trying to disperse the crowd. Ms. Rourke confirmed that she did not know Mr. Mello but was in fear for his safety and the safety of others. Ms. Rourke could not see Mr. Mello being attacked from her position in the crowd but knew that a fight had ensued. At that time, Ms. Rourke backed away from the crowd and noticed that Mr. Lugo, who she immediately recognized, was standing directly in front of her. He then punched her multiple times in the left side of her face and ear with what she defined as a “closed fist.”

Ms. Rourke stated that her injuries were minor and explained that she has soreness on the left side of her face and that her left ear was “ringing.” Ms. Rourke told me that she planned on seeing a medical professional (for her injuries) at Urgent Care located on Airport Road in Warwick, Rhode Island. While speaking with Ms. Rourke, I did not observe any noticeable swelling or bruising on her face or ear. Please see attached photograph of Ms. Rourke’s face and hands.

I asked Ms. Rourke to explain her relationship with Mr. Lugo and she replied, “He’s running against me for the same Senate seat.” I asked Ms. Rourke if she has ever met Mr. Lugo in-person and she replied, “No but at the beginning of last week he announced on his Twitter that he was running for Senate, other people tagged me in his post.” I asked Ms. Rourke if she believed that Mr. Lugo knew who she was/recognized her prior to the assault and she replied, “Yes.” During the preliminary interview, I asked Ms. Rourke if she said anything to Mr. Lugo or touched him in any way that would instigate a violent response, and she replied, “No.” During the recorded interview, I asked Ms. Rourke if she had or attempted to remove anyone from the altercation and she replied, “No.”

At the conclusion of the interview, Ms. Rourke was shown a Rhode Island DMV photograph of Mr. Lugo.

I asked Ms. Rourke if the male depicted in the DMV photograph was Mr. Lugo; the same male who assaulted her and she replied, "Yes." She then explained that she reported this incident to the Providence Police Department on the night of June 24, 2022. Please see attached Providence Police Report.

At 12:00 PM, I made contact with Mr. Bartholomew regarding the video recording that he submitted to the Rhode Island State Police. Mr. Bartholomew refused to make a statement and stated that he did not see anything beyond what is captured in the video. I asked Mr. Bartholomew if he saw Ms. Rourke being disorderly prior to the assault and he replied, "No. I didn't see her touch anyone or yell at anyone." Mr. Bartholomew agreed to respond to the Barracks and provide his Iphone 10 for video extraction.

As a result of this investigation, an Affidavit and Arrest Warrant was signed for **Jeann Lugo, DOB: 03/24/2987 of 39 Waverly Street, Warwick, Rhode Island** for 1.) Simple Assault, and 2.) Disorderly Conduct.

At 3:31 PM, Mr. Lugo responded to the Rhode Island State Police Lincoln Woods Barracks with his attorney, Daniel Griffin, Esq. and Providence Police Sergeant Paul Zienowicz. At 3:35 PM, Mr. Lugo was read his Constitutional Rights from the Rhode Island State Police Rights Form. Also present was Lieutenant Eric Yanyar. Mr. Lugo acknowledged he understood his rights but refused to make a statement or sign the form. He was then processed. While processing Mr. Lugo, I did not observe any injuries to his hands. He was later arraigned by a Justice of the Peace and released with a Sixth District Court date of July 8, 2022.

On June 26, 2022, I contacted Mr. Mello. Mr. Mello told me that he was in pain from the assault and wished to provide a formal statement after he is seen by a medical professional.

At 3:15 PM, Mr. Mello responded to the Lincoln Woods Barracks and provided me with his medical documentation from the Rhode Island Hospital Emergency Room. According to Mr. Mello's medical documentation, he was given a CT scan of his head and diagnosed with a concussion and swelling.

At 3:40 PM, Mr. Mello agreed to provide a formal statement regarding the assault. The statement was audio/video recorded. Mr. Mello stated that during the protest, he was acting as an unbiased independent journalist. He arrived at the State House at approximately 7:30 PM in order to take pictures of the surroundings. Shortly thereafter, he logged into his Facebook account, "Josh Mello" and he began to "livestream" the event.

Mr. Mello showed me the video of the "livestream" which was on his Facebook account. The "livestream" is from Mr. Mello's perspective due to him being the only person who was holding his personal cellular telephone. The "livestream" confirmed that Mr. Mello was possibly targeted by unknown individuals who may have known him from other protests. One male is heard saying, "Hey, I know you" while another says, "You're a Catholic fascist." Moments later, Mr. Mello is surrounded by a group of agitated protestors and is attacked by the unknown male in the green Adidas track suit.

I asked Mr. Mello if he knew any of the people who surrounded him, and he stated that he did not. He added that there were several times where he was touched by unknown individuals which was not in camera view. At a point, his cellular telephone is knocked out of his hand, and he could constantly feel people pushing

him. I asked Mr. Mello if he felt that he was targeted and he replied, "Yes." When asked why, Mr. Mello confirmed that he is a member of the "Freedom Fighters." Twitter account, "Rhode Island Freedom Fighters," defines their organization as "Rhode Islanders on a mission to defend FREEDOMA Survivors of Gina Raimondo's regime – Currently suffering under Dan McKee."

At the conclusion of the interview, Mr. Mello requested that he be allowed to speak on Mr. Lugo's behalf. Mr. Mello told me that he is familiar with Mr. Lugo and strongly believed that there is video footage of Mr. Lugo attempting to stop the assault (on Mr. Mello). Please see 22RIX4-244-PR, audio and video recording of Mr. Mello's statement, attached, for further information.

On June 27, 2022, I received the surveillance footage from the Rhode Island State House for the evening of June 24, 2022. The footage was unusable due to lighting and the distance in which this incident took place compared to where the cameras are. Please see 22RIX4-246-PR, State House surveillance footage, attached.

At 6:30 PM, a second video of this incident was found on the Twitter page, "NewsTalk 99.7 & AM 630 WPRO." The video was recorded from an unknown individual and showed the altercation between Mr. Lugo and Ms. Rourke from a higher vantage point. The video is 2:05 in length and begins with Mr. Mello being surrounded by protestors. At 1:33, Mr. Mello walks to the first platform and begins to "livestream" and 1:44, he is assaulted. In the background of the initial assault, Mr. Lugo is seen lunging towards Mr. Mello. At that time, Mr. Lugo's right arm is grabbed by Ms. Rourke who was standing behind him. Ms. Rourke pulls Mr. Lugo away from the assault and the altercation is stopped. Please see 22RIX4-241-PR, footage from "NewsTalk 99.7 & AM 630 WPRO," attached.

On June 30, 2022, Trooper David Wilson sent me a "Podcast" titled "The Pro-Choice Rally Brawl" hosted by Gene Valicenti. During the "Podcast," Mr. Valicenti interviewed Mr. Bartholomew who stated that he arrived at the protest at 7:45 PM and observed members of the "Freedom Fighters" begin to arrive. Also interviewed was Tommy Quinlan, from WPRO, who confirmed that he took the recording of the assault which captured Ms. Rourke grabbing Mr. Lugo. Both Mr. Bartholomew and Mr. Quinlan stated (in the interview with Gene Valicenti) that from their perspective, they believe that Ms. Rourke was trying to stop the initial assault on Mr. Mello both physically and verbally.

On July 1, 2022, at 9:30 AM, Mr. Bartholomew and his attorney Michael Forte Esq. responded to the Rhode Island State Police Lincoln Woods and provided the original, unedited, video footage of both assaults. Prior to providing the footage, Mr. Bartholomew signed the Rhode Island State Police Consent to Search Department form.

The video footage from Mr. Bartholomew was sent to Detective Kristen Carr of the Rhode Island State forensic Service. Detective Carr was able to produce "still photographs" of the suspect who was wearing the green Adidas track suit to be posted on Rhode Island State Police social media outlets for identification purposes.