



**BURLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

1 North Avenue  
Burlington, Vermont 05401

Michael E. Schirling  
Chief of Police

Phone (802) 658-2704  
Fax (802) 865-7579

**PRESS RELEASE**

INCIDENT #2010-17042 DATE July 17, 2010 TIME 0254 AM

LOCATION City Hall Park/Bank Street @ Center Street, Burlington

INVESTIGATING OFFICER Officer Dwayne Mellis

NATURE OF INCIDENT Reckless Endangerment

OIC APPROVAL Sgt. Wright / Chief Schirling

|                              |                     |           |
|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| SUSPECT: <u>Jesse Palker</u> | <u>Westford, Vt</u> | <u>27</u> |
| NAME                         | ADDRESS             | AGE       |

DISPOSITION: Lodged at Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility

On July 17, 2010 at about 0255, Burlington Police received a report of possible gunshots fired in the area of City Hall Park. Investigation revealed an a shot was indeed fired and an additional shot fired in the area of Bank Street at Center Street moments later. A description of the suspect was obtained from witnesses. Within minutes, police located a man matching the description of the suspect on Bank Street, and he was identified as Jesse Palker, 27, of Westford. Palker was found to be in possession of a handgun of the same caliber as spent shell casings found at the scenes. Palker was taken into custody without incident and charged with two-counts Reckless Endangerment. He was lodged at the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility on \$1,000 bail set by a Court Clerk. Parker had been drinking but it is unclear whether that is a factor in these events. At this stage in the investigation we do not know the motivation for Palker's random discharge of the firearm. There were no injuries resulting from these incidents and no indication that the shots were fired at any individual.

Investigation continues.