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MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 23, 2020

(CPD Case# 20-22178-AR)

Attempted Arson

(CONCORD, NH) - On July 22, at approximately 3:00 a.m. the Concord Police Department and Concord Fire Department responded to 67 South St., The Draft Sports Bar, for a report of a fire, possibly arson. An employee had discovered a small fire on the outside of the building. The fire was extinguished by the employee of the Draft. The Fire Department checked for possible extension of the fire into the building. After conducting an investigation, it was determined the fire had been intentionally set. This would have been the second fire that The Draft had experienced in two days. The first fire, which occurred on July 21, had not been reported to authorities since it was believed to have been caused by an accident involving a discarded cigarette. After reviewing video footage it was discovered that the fire that had occurred on July 21 was actually intentionally set. The person observed on the surveillance footage setting the fire was identified by employees of the Draft as being:

Matthew Vashaw 39 yoa
Concord, NH

Vashaw was known to the Draft employees from previous contacts and incidents that had occurred which resulted in Vashaw being asked to leave the establishment.

With the assistance of the Concord Fire Department and City of Manchester Fire Investigation Unit, Vashaw was taken into custody for the fire that was set on July 21. The fire which was set on July 22 is still under investigation.

Vashaw is currently being held at the Merrimack County Jail. A detention hearing is scheduled for today at 2:00 p.m. at the Merrimack County Superior Court.

Anyone with any information related to either of these incidents is asked to contact the Concord Police at 225-8600 or the Concord Regional Crimeline at 226-3100.

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“Community Committed”