

**For Immediate Release**

Sgt. Rich Millard

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**Suspect arrested following a stabbing incident**

On June 26<sup>th</sup>, at approximately 11:30 p.m., the Royal Oak Police Department received multiple 911 calls regarding an assault in progress. There were several calls from neighbors stating a female was being assaulted and they could hear screaming. One call was from a male victim who stated he was stabbed in the forearm, along with a female who was stabbed in the hand. Officers responded to the scene to attend to both victims and learned that the suspect was barricaded inside the apartment, located on the 2500 block of Rochester.

The female victim reported she drove from Flint to hang out with a friend, Brandon Newberry (22 years old), for the week. Newberry and the female victim met another friend at a bar and invited him back to the apartment. Newberry became enraged, for unspecified reasons, and attacked the male and female victim. The fight continued outside of the apartment in front of the complex, then returned to the apartment. Responding officers put a tourniquet on the male victim's arm for his cut and separated the victims away from the apartment to be treated by responding Royal Oak Fire Department personnel.

The victims reported that Newberry had barricaded himself inside the apartment. Neighbors also confirmed that the subject fled inside the apartment with a knife. Officers forced entry into the apartment and located Newberry in the shower. Newberry resisted officers attempts to take him into custody and was verbally abusive. Newberry also intentionally defected on the arresting officers. After Newberry was handcuffed, he tried to launch himself off the balcony and tried to intentionally fall down the stairs. Newberry spit at and kicked officers as they attempted to escort him to their patrol car.

Newberry was transported to the station and remained combative, trying to spit and intentionally cough on the officers. While in the elevator Newberry intentionally coughed on an officer before he could put a spit mask on him.

In the hallway of the cellblock area, Newberry intentionally kicked over buckets that were collecting water from the leaking roof. After being placed in a cell, Newberry promptly removed the spit mask and tried to choke himself with it. Officers approached the cell and Newberry put his mask into the toilet water and then threw it at the officers, hitting one in the face.

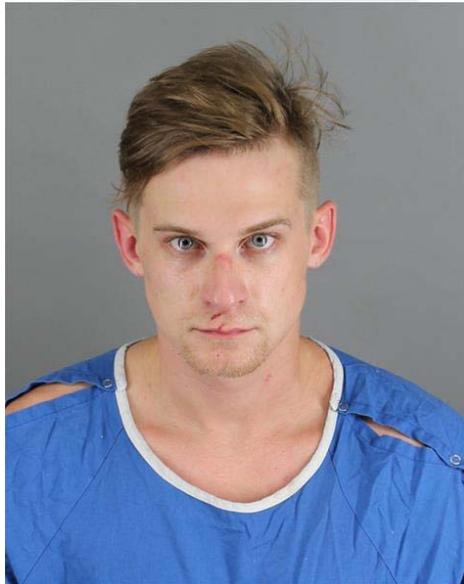
Newberry exclaimed throughout the incident that he was trying to infect the officers with HIV & COVID.

Newberry then tried to drown himself in the toilet. Newberry was transported to William Beaumont Hospital for treatment. The officers involved were also treated for their exposure.

“To say the officers involved in this incident showed tremendous restraint would be an understatement. I am very proud of them and how they conducted themselves. They are both tough guys and can, quite frankly, handle some physical abuse, but the potential of the HIV and COVID exposure is going to cause a tremendous amount of anxiety for them and their young families” Chief Corrigan O’Donohue

Newberry is charged with:

- Two (2) counts of False Exposure to Harmful Substance, a felony which carries a sentence of up to 5 years in prison
- Two (2) counts of Felonious Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, a felony which carries a sentence of up to 4 years in prison.
- One (1) count of Assaulting/Resisting/Obstructing Police, a felony which carries a sentence of up to 2 years in prison.



**Brandon Christopher Newberry / 12-06-1997**

Newberry’s criminal history includes convictions for Assault & Battery, Malicious Destruction of Property, Disturbing the Peace and Driving While License Suspended.

Newberry was arraigned on June 29, 2020 and his bond was set at \$50,000 (No 10%). His next court appearance is scheduled for July 10, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. before Judge Derek Meinecke of the 44<sup>th</sup> District Court.

For more information, contact the Royal Oak Police Department Criminal Investigation Division Sergeant Rich Millard at (248) 246-3528.