



101 NORTH MAIN STREET HARRISONBURG, VA 22802 OFFICE (540) 432-7703

For Immediate Release – Sept. 28, 2023

Contact: Matthew Tobia, Fire Chief

540-432-7703

## HFD seeks information after person seriously injured by thrown illegal explosive

HARRISONBURG, Va. – The Harrisonburg Fire Department is seeking the public's help in identifying a suspect who threw a mortar-style firework toward a crowd at a social gathering over the weekend, seriously injuring an individual.

The incident happened at approximately midnight on Saturday night, Sept. 23, in the 500 block of South Main Street. Security camera footage from the area shows a slender-built man wearing a light-colored top, dark pants and a hat throw the large, illegal firework toward a gathering, which exploded and seriously injured one of the individuals standing in the area. The suspect ran from the scene and has not been identified.

The victim was seen at Sentara RMH and then transported to the VCU Trauma Center in Richmond. HFD will not be releasing any further information about the victim or his condition.

The HFD Fire Marshal's Office is investigating the incident and is requesting the public's help in identifying the suspect.

"This was a serious incident, and the person responsible for it needs to be identified and held accountable," HFD Assistant Fire Marshal Keith Link said. "Anyone with information that can help us bring this investigation to a conclusion is strongly encouraged to do what is right and contact us as soon as possible."

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to contact the Fire Marshal's Office at 540-432-7703. Anonymous tips related to this incident can be sent to Crime Solvers at 540-574-5050.

**The City of Harrisonburg** is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 55,700 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at <a href="https://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov">www.HarrisonburgVA.gov</a>.

