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Suspect Arrested for Attempted Murder Following Knife Attack on Chicago Avenue

HARRISONBURG, VA — On July 23, 2025, at 3:43 p.m. The Harrisonburg-Rockingham Emergency Communication Center (ECC) received a call stating a woman had been attacked with a knife by a male not known to her in the 1000 block of Chicago Avenue in Harrisonburg.

The victim, a 54-year-old Harrisonburg resident, was taken to Sentara RMH with critical injuries, but is expected to recover.

HPD officers and major crimes detectives immediately began canvassing the area looking for the suspect, who had fled the scene. HPD K9 Riggs was able to successfully track the suspect's scent, leading detectives to a possible location of the suspect. As a result of the canvas, officers were able to obtain surveillance footage, which was shared across multiple platforms. Thanks to the diligent work of HPD officers and major crimes detectives, along with tips from concerned community members, the suspect was identified as 44-year-old Hunter Booth of Harrisonburg.

The Harrisonburg Special Weapons and Tactics (S.W.A.T.) Team executed a search warrant at his known residence on Chicago Avenue, and Booth was taken into custody without incident. He is being charged with the following:

18.2-26/18.2-32 Attempted Murder in the first degree.

The Harrisonburg-Rockingham Emergency Communication Center (ECC) issued a shelter-in-place order at approximately 4:15 p.m. directed at the affected neighborhood and nearby streets. This decision, made by law enforcement, aims to alert the public about a potential threat within their vicinity. Residents are advised to remain indoors in a safe place during a shelter-in-place order, and they should anticipate a substantial police presence in the area. Community members can register to receive these types of alerts by going online to https://harrisonburgva.gov/eas