



SCOTT LACHASSE
CHIEF OF POLICE

BURBANK POLICE DEPARTMENT

200 North Third Street, Burbank, CA 91502

OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE

NORTH HOLLYWOOD MAN CHARGED WITH ASSAULTING AN OFFICER

May 28, 2020

Burbank, CA - A 43-year-old North Hollywood man has been arrested and charged for assaulting a Burbank Police Officer with his vehicle.

On Sunday, May 24, 2020, at about 12:05 pm, Burbank Police Officers responded to the CVS Pharmacy, located at 511 N. Hollywood Way, regarding a man stealing bottles of alcohol. An officer arrived and tried to detain the man, now identified as Mushegh Darbinyan, for a theft investigation. Darbinyan refused to follow the officer's orders and entered his van, which was parked in the CVS parking lot.

Suddenly, Darbinyan reversed out of a parking space, with his driver door open. The police officer became wedged in-between the door and the van, and was dragged several yards, before being thrown to the ground. Darbinyan fled the scene in his vehicle. The injured officer was able to get up, radio for assistance and get into his own vehicle to give chase. However, he was unable to catch up to the suspect and lost sight of the van.

Police officers, who identified Darbinyan, learned that he is on felony probation for a prior burglary. In addition, Burbank Police Investigators determined Darbinyan committed two additional thefts at the same CVS on May 3 and May 16. The combined loss from those two incidents was nearly \$3,000 in alcohol and cosmetics.

On the morning of May 26, Burbank Police Investigators located and arrested Darbinyan near his residence in North Hollywood. Investigators also served a search warrant at Darbinyan's home, where they located evidence linking him to the assault.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has since reviewed the case and filed one count each of assault upon a peace officer [245(c) PC], grand theft and petty theft against Darbinyan. He is being held without bail and is due to appear in court today.

The police officer was transported to a local hospital and has since been released. He is currently off of work, recovering.

Anyone who witnessed this incident is encouraged to contact Burbank Police Detectives at (818) 238-3210.

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QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS STATEMENT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:
LIEUTENANT CLAUDIO LOSACCO | 818-238-3240 | CLOSACCO@BURBANKCA.GOV

24-HOUR: 818-238-3000

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE: 818-238-3240

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