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## ESSEX POLICE DEPARTMENT

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### PRESS RELEASE

Date: 03/06/2024

Case Number: 24ES001819

Narrative:

On March 6, 2024, at 6:19 pm, Essex Police responded to Starbucks located at 54 Sunderland Way in the town of Essex for a report of a male who had entered the establishment claiming to be followed and requested police assistance. While officers were enroute, dispatch updated officers that the same male was causing a disturbance by throwing things inside the establishment.

When police arrived, the fire alarm had been pulled by the male and everyone had evacuated the property. Police were alerted by employees to the involved male's location as he was walking away from the scene.

Investigation revealed the male had caused substantial damage to the building, merchandise, and food product. The male also assaulted a 49-year-old male patron from Essex Junction with a chair causing injury to the victim's hand. Essex Rescue was called to the scene to treat the victim.

Officers contacted the male who appeared to be under the influence of a controlled substance. The male was identified as 34-year-old Eduardo Figueroa-Ruiz from Colchester, Vermont. When attempting to take the male into custody, Figueroa-Ruiz actively resisted arrest. After a brief struggle, Figueroa-Ruiz was taken into custody and transported to the UVM Medical Center Emergency Department as a precaution.

Figueroa-Ruiz was medically cleared and transported to the Essex Police Department where he was processed for Unlawful Mischief, Assault, False Alarms and Reports, Disorderly Conduct, and Resisting Arrest. He was released on court conditions and issued a flash citation to appear at Vermont Superior Court-Criminal Division on March 7, 2024.

Issued by: Sergeant Dunn  
Contact: Cpl. Wehman