

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 24, 2020



Contact:

Diana L. Klink
Office: 757.514.4104
Mobile: 757.359.1845

Tim Kelley
Office: 757.514.4103
Mobile: 757.871.3039

MAN ARRESTED AFTER ASSAULT AT LOCAL HOSPITAL

SUFFOLK, Virginia (February 24, 2020) Suffolk Police advise of the arrest of a man after an assault occurred at the Emergency Room at Sentara Obici Hospital on Friday afternoon, February 21, 2020.

Emergency Communications was contacted at 4:39 p.m. and an Officer responded to the location in the 2800 block of Godwin Boulevard after receiving a complaint of an individual with a concealed weapon in the Emergency Department.

Upon preliminary investigation it was determined that the subject had responded to the Emergency Department earlier that afternoon and had informed medical personnel that he had a concealed weapon and also allegedly displayed a badge from an out-of-state Police Department. He was informed by security personnel that weapons weren't allowed in the building and was asked to leave the facility or secure his firearm in his vehicle. The subject left the facility and returned a short time later. When asked by security personnel if the weapon was still on his person he allegedly became aggressive and attempted to go around security personnel in order to enter the Emergency Room area, where he then attempted to reach inside a front vest pocket.

Members of hospital security and the Suffolk Police Officer there investigating the initial complaint responded and the subject utilized OC spray, commonly known as mace or pepper spray, affecting security personnel, the Officer, and hospital staff.

The subject, Norman Ontague Ashburn, III, age 51, of Suffolk, was arrested on charges including Injury – Caustic Agent, Explosive or Fire (2 counts); Impersonating Law Enforcement Officer; and Fail to Produce Weapon Permit. The investigation remains ongoing and additional charges may be filed. He is currently being held at the Western Tidewater Regional Jail. Mug shot attached.

###