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James C. Rovella
Chief of Police



PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS

From the City of Hartford Office of Communications and New Media
Tuesday, June 18, 2013

SHOOTING TASK FORCE CHARGES ROGELIO ORTEGA WITH UNLAWFUL DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM

(Hartford, CT) – Rogelio Ortega, 20, of Jackson Street, Manchester, has been charged by the [Hartford Shooting Task Force](#) with unlawful discharge of a firearm, carrying a pistol without a permit, second degree threatening and first degree reckless endangerment, as a result of an investigation into a shot fired incident confirmed by [Shot Spotter](#) on May 18, 2013 in the vicinity of 24 York Street.

On May 18th at approximately 2:00 a.m., patrol units were dispatched to the area of 24 York Street on a report of a single gunshot detected by the HPD's [Shot Spotter technology](#). Patrol Officer Barone located several witnesses and a vehicle possibly belonging to the suspect. Based on that information, Patrol Officer Last later conducted a motor vehicle stop of the suspect vehicle that was being operated by Rogelio Ortega. On investigation, officers located a live 9mm round in the vehicle.

The information gathered by Patrol Officers Barone and Last was forwarded by supervising Sergeant Varkal to the [Hartford Shooting Task Force](#) for further investigation. HSTF Detectives Blumes and Sarju, assigned to the case, developed additional information that led to the application and approval of an arrest warrant for Ortega by Hartford Superior Court on June 13th. Members of the HSTF apprehended Ortega with incident on June 14, 2013.

In commenting on Ortega's arrest, Hartford Shooting Task Force Supervisor Sergeant Sean Spell said, "Ortega's arrest was the result of the excellent collaboration between the HPD Patrol Division, particularly Sergeant Varkal and Officers Barone and Last, and the Hartford Shooting Task Force. An excellent job by all."

Ortega remains in custody on a court set \$500,000 bond and a scheduled court date of July 15, 2013 in GA 14, Hartford Superior Court.



Rogelio Ortega, DOB 11/22/1992

Background of [The Hartford Shooting Task Force](#):

A major component of Hartford Police Chief James C. Rovella's 2013 Safe City Initiative, the Hartford Shooting Task Force was created in July, 2011. A collaboration of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies dedicated to eradicating gun violence in Connecticut's Capital City, the partnership includes the Hartford Police Department, Office of the Chief's State's Attorney, Connecticut State Police, Connecticut Department of Correction and Parole, and the West Hartford, Manchester, Wethersfield and East Hartford police departments. The Hartford Shooting Task Force is charged with investigating gun violence and bringing those responsible for such violence to prosecution. It also collaborates with the Violent Crimes Bureau and the Witness Protection Unit of the State of Connecticut Office of the Chief State's Attorney and in conjunction with the Central Connecticut Cold Case Task Force.

For further information about the Hartford Shooting Task Force contact Sergeant Sean Spell, Supervisor, at 860-757-4112, email spels001@hartford.gov.

[Hartford on Cutting Edge of Anti-Gun Initiative, January 2013 Hartford Courant Article](#)

[2012 Hartford Shooting Task Force End of the Year Statistics](#)

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