



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 13, 2020
Case No. 20-12666

On May 13, 2020, at approximately 5:50 AM, the Portage Department of Public Safety Police Division received a report of a felonious assault on the Bicentennial Park Trail. As the female victim was jogging north on the trail between Garden Lane and Romence Road, she heard noises coming from the woods which she initially believed to be a deer, but then distinguished the noise to be footsteps. As she ran under the bridge at the Romence Road underpass, she was grabbed from behind by a white male, mid 20's to early 30's, wearing a red color hooded sweatshirt and armed with a pocket knife. The suspect grabbed her by the arm at which point the victim screamed and fought back before she was pushed to the ground. The victim was able to run away and call the police from a nearby gas station at the corner of South Westnedge and Romence Road.

The Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety K-9 unit responded to the scene to assist Portage officers. A track of the area was conducted for a short period of time, but was unsuccessful. The male suspect is described as approximately six feet tall, thin build, medium light brown hair with a goatee, wearing a red hoodie and jeans. For patron safety, increased patrol by officers has been implemented along the trail and surrounding area as the incident remains under investigation.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Portage Department of Public Safety at 329-4567 or Silent Observer at 343-2100, www.kalamazoosilentobserver.com.

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