



## Town of Ramapo Police Department NEWS RELEASE



No. 08-53

Issuance Date: May 27, 2008

**Subject: Attempted Murder Arrest**

**Issuing Authority: Detective Lieutenant Brad Weidel**

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Today at about 8:40am RPD responded to the Holidome in the Village of Montebello for the report of an assault in progress. A suspect had assaulted his girlfriend and had fled the scene by jumping out of a second story window. His description was broadcast to responding units.

The victim had been strangled to the point of unconsciousness. She was responsive when patrols arrived. She was taken to Good Samaritan Hospital, treated and later released.

The suspect was seen by RPD units in the parking lot behind Drug Mart in Airmont. Officers gave chase and lost the suspect in the woods. The area was immediately sealed off with the assistance of the Suffern, Mahwah and NYS Police Departments. A reverse 9-1-1 call was done through Radio HQ alerted residents and businesses in the area of the situation. The RC helicopter was also dispatched to the area.

K-9 units from RPD and Clarkstown PD began a search of the area including sheds and vacant buildings. About 3 hours later the suspect was located in the woods by RPD officers. He was found hiding between some logs. He was arrested without incident. He was taken to Good Samaritan Hospital for observation and released.

The Rockland County BCI unit assisted with processing the crime scene for forensic evidence.

Charged is Donnell Preston of 135 North Ardmore in Dayton, Ohio. His DOB is 5/7/80. His girlfriend is also from the Dayton Ohio area. Both were staying at the Holidome while he worked as a magazine sales solicitor.

He is charged with Attempted Murder 2<sup>nd</sup> and Burglary 2<sup>nd</sup>. He will be arraigned later this evening in the Town of Ramapo Justice Court.