

FACT SHEET

December 3, 2007: George Duarte is released from prison. He served a 30-month sentence after being convicted in April 2005 of unlawful possession of a firearm and ammunition.

December 21, 2007: George Duarte allegedly shoots a 19-year-old man in the right foot near the intersection of North Sixth and Hillman streets. The shooting occurred around 1:30 p.m. Charges were brought today for this incident.

December 31, 2007: George Duarte allegedly fired six rounds at a moving dark-colored sport-utility vehicle near County and South streets just after 6 p.m. No one was injured in the shooting, but the vehicle was damaged. Charges were brought on January 18 for this incident.

January 1, 2008: While at a party at 370 County St., George Duarte allegedly shoots 15-year-old Edwin Medina. Mr. Medina later dies from the single gunshot wound to his abdomen. Charges were filed today for this incident.

January 18, 2008: After identifying Duarte as the man who allegedly fired at a moving vehicle on New Year's Eve, New Bedford Police and State Police Unit detectives assigned to the Bristol County District Attorney's Office execute a search warrant at a Cleveland Street apartment where Duarte was known to be staying. During the raid, police arrest Mr. Duarte and seize two shotguns, ammunition, a pellet gun, a paintball gun and a throwing knife. Duarte is charged with discharging a firearm within 500 feet of a building, unlawful possession of a shotgun, unlawful possession of ammunition and two counts of malicious destruction of property.

January 25, 2008: During a dangerousness hearing in New Bedford District Court, District Attorney Sam Sutter successfully argues to have Duarte held without bail.

February 19, 2008: District Attorney Sutter, along with New Bedford Police Chief Ronald Teachman and New Bedford Mayor Scott Lang, announces that Duarte is being charged with the January 1st murder of Edwin Medina and the December 21st shooting of a 19-year-old city man.

Other facts: During the extensive seven-week investigation, police charge four individuals with witness intimidation/obstruction of justice for allegedly lying to and misleading detectives investigating the Medina homicide. The four defendants were held on bail ranging from \$500 to \$10,000.