



For Immediate Release: Dec. 26, 2023

Contact: Capt. Jason Kidd  
Operations Bureau Commander  
jason.kidd@harrisonburgva.gov

## HPD Arrests Suspect in Abduction Case

HARRISONBURG, Va. – One person is under arrest and his victim returned home uninjured following an abduction yesterday in Harrisonburg.

The Harrisonburg Police Department (HPD) responded to a 9-1-1 call Monday, Dec. 25, at approximately 1:45 p.m. regarding an incident in the 40 block of South Avenue and learned of the abduction of an adult woman. Officers spoke with witnesses who stated that the 23-year-old victim, who lives in Harrisonburg, had been abducted by Ruben Enrique Mejia Garcia, 28, of Harrisonburg.

Mejia Garcia, who had previously been in a relationship with the victim, came to the area of the victim's apartment and forced her into a vehicle before driving away with her to an area outside of the city. He threatened the victim and brandished a gun at her, which caused her to stay in the vehicle. After forcing conversation for approximately one hour, Mejia García returned the victim uninjured to the area of her apartment.

Officers were on location when she returned and soon thereafter located Mejía García walking on Central Avenue. Officers detained Mejía García while they investigated further, and later arrested him on several charges related to the incident.

Mejía García was charged with abduction, use of a firearm in commission of a felony, assault and battery of a family member, unlawful possession of a firearm and brandishing a firearm. He is currently being held without bond at the Rockingham-Harrisonburg Regional Jail.

*The City of Harrisonburg* is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 55,700 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is available online at [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov).



(Above) Ruben Enrique Mejia Garcia



###