



Wyckoff Police Department PRESS RELEASE

TO: ALL NEWS MEDIA
FROM: Lt. Joseph Soto
DATE: February 21, 2022
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For Immediate Release:

On January 28, at approximately 3:00 PM, a resident of Clinton Avenue reported a suspicious male had entered her rear yard. When the male was confronted by the homeowner, he ran and entered a vehicle and left the area. The homeowner advised P.O. Michael Teegan that prior to this, she had received several package deliveries that she did not order and placed the packages in her garage. Det. Sgt. Mark Tagliareni suspected that the suspicious male was most likely looking for those packages and may return. He surveilled the house and a short while later, observed a vehicle enter the driveway. The subsequent investigation resulted in the arrest of Luichy R. Merejodejesus, Hasbrouck Heights NJ, age; 33. He was charged with criminal attempt to commit theft. On January 18, 2022, Governor Phil Murphy signed the “Defense Against Porch Pirates Act” bill, making this a 3rd degree crime regardless of the value of the items stolen. Merejodejesus was processed and released from custody and is scheduled to appear in court. P.O. Michael Flim and P.O. Joseph Fullam assisted with the arrest.

On February 11, at approximately 9:45 PM, P.O. Kevin Oldewurtel observed a Land Rover being operated on the wrong side of the road on Wyckoff Avenue. The vehicle was stopped near Woodbury Drive. The stop resulted in the arrest of Randal Konik, Wyckoff NJ, age; 45. He was transported into headquarters and charged with driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, and failure to maintain a lane of travel. He was released to a family member and his vehicle was impounded and held for 12 hours under John’s Law.

On February 11, at approximately 3:05 AM, P.O. Michael Flim observed a Jeep Wrangler being operated on Wyckoff Avenue without any lights on. He stopped the Jeep near Russell Avenue and the stop resulted in the arrest of Andy Betance, Englewood NJ, age; 27. He was transported into headquarters and charged with driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, refusal to submit to breath testing, and operating a motor vehicle without headlights. He was processed and released to the custody of a friend.

On October 21, 2021, P.O. Nicholas Bucci took a report from a resident concerning Cyber Harassment. The matter was forwarded to the Detective Bureau for follow-up investigation. During an intensive 4-month investigation, Det. Sgt. Michael Ragucci identified a suspect. On February 14, 2022, he signed a criminal complaint against Michael Mitaly, Milford CT., age; 38. Mitaly was charged with one count of Cyber Harassment, a 4th degree crime. He is scheduled to appear in Court to answer the charge against him.

The Wyckoff Police Department would like to point out that the above individuals have been charged with a crime, offense, and or motor vehicle violations. However, they are presumed innocent unless and until they are found guilty in a court of law.

We cannot stress enough the value of our residents remaining alert in their neighborhoods and reporting anything unusual or suspicious to the police, “Hear It! See It!, Report It!”

We encourage all residents to report ANY suspicious persons, vehicles, or activity occurring at any time to the Wyckoff Police – County Communications Center at 201-891-2121 or 911 in the event of an emergency.