



## Wyckoff Police Department PRESS RELEASE

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**TO: ALL NEWS MEDIA**  
**FROM: Lt. Joseph Soto**  
**DATE: October 16, 2018**  
**CONTACT: Lt. Joseph Soto**

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### **For Immediate Release:**

**On Saturday September 15, at approximately 2 PM, Sgt. Michael DeMaio was dispatched to a local business on a report of a shoplifting. The store's loss prevention officer advised Sgt. DeMaio that the suspect had exited the store with a large quantity of frozen seafood that he did not pay for. The loss prevention officer advised Sgt. DeMaio that he recognized the suspect from previous shoplifting incidents at the store. The matter was referred to the detective bureau for further investigation. Det. Sgt. Kevin Kasak received information from the Hackensack and Ridgewood Police Departments concerning a similar suspect. The subsequent investigation resulted in charges being filed against Luca M. Ferrigno, Elmwood Park NJ, age; 48. Ferrigno was charged with shoplifting at the store on August 17, August 25, September 1, and September 15. The complaints were forwarded to Superior Court for disposition.**

**On Wednesday September 19, at approximately 9:06 PM, P.O. Terrence Murphy was dispatched to the area of Crescent and Brookside Avenues on a report of a motor vehicle crash. Upon arriving, P.O. Murphy observed a vehicle approximately 100 feet off the roadway that had collided with trees and shrubs. The subsequent investigation resulted in the arrest of the driver, Shawn E. Thompson, Wyckoff NJ, age 24. Thompson was transported into headquarters where additional testing was performed. He was charged with driving while intoxicated and reckless driving. He was released to a friend pending a court date. His vehicle was impounded and held for twelve hours under John's Law. P.O. William Plisich and P.O. Ryan Noon assisted with the investigation and arrest.**

**On Friday September 21 at approximately 6:10 PM, P.O. James Bakelaar was dispatched to a motor vehicle crash on Brookside Avenue near Stratton Court. Upon arrival, P.O. Bakelaar observed that a vehicle had struck a utility pole and was severely damaged. The driver of the vehicle was still seated in the car and stated that he was injured. The driver was transported to a local hospital to be evaluated for his injuries. The subsequent investigation resulted in charges being filed against the driver, Joseph R. Varcadipane Jr., Monroe NY, age 44. He was charged with driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, failure to exhibit an insurance card, and failure to keep right. He is scheduled to appear in court. Sgt. Mark Tagliareni, P.O. Michael Teegan, P.O. John Rafferty, P.O. Kaitlyn Maglione, and Det. Sgt. Michael Ragucci assisted at the accident scene and with the investigation.**

**On Tuesday September 25 at approximately 9 PM, P.O. Kaitlyn Maglione was dispatched to Russell Avenue and Helena Avenue on a report that a vehicle struck a utility pole. Upon arriving, P.O. Maglione observed a vehicle on the front lawn of a residence. The subsequent investigation resulted in the arrest of Holly Chiego, Mahwah NJ, age; 35. Chiego was transported into headquarters and charged with driving while intoxicated and reckless driving. She was released to a friend pending a court date. Her vehicle was impounded for twelve hours under John's Law. Sgt. Kevin Pinches and P.O. John Rafferty assisted with the arrest.**

**On Monday October 1, at approximately 4 PM, multiple Wyckoff officers were dispatched to a local business on a report that a male subject was locked in the bathroom. It was further reported that the male was screaming, yelling, and throwing objects. Upon the officers' arrival, the subject continued his actions, despite being ordered to stop. He eventually emerged from the bathroom and was taken into custody. He was transported to a local hospital to be evaluated. The subsequent investigation resulted in charges being filed against Jordan P. Crispano, Wyckoff NJ, age; 28. He was charged with one count of disorderly / prohibited conduct. He is scheduled to appear in court. Chief David Murphy, Sgt. Brian Zivkovich, Sgt. Thomas Tully, Det. Sgt. Michael Ragucci, Det. Sgt. Kevin Kasak, P.O. James Bakelaar, and P.O. Kaitlyn Maglione assisted at the scene.**

**On Tuesday October 2, Det. Sgt. Michael Ragucci responded to a local business on a reported shoplifting that occurred on September 24. The store's loss prevention officer advised Sgt. Ragucci that a female had attempted to make a return of an item at the courtesy desk. While reviewing security video, the loss prevention officer determined that the female had taken the item from the shelves and attempted to return it without ever purchasing it. The subsequent investigation resulted in shoplifting charges being filed against Patrice L. Bushey, Ramsey NJ, age; 63. Bushey is scheduled to appear in court.**

**On Saturday October 6 at approximately 8:30 PM, P.O. Michael Teegan was on patrol when he received a radio broadcast from the Fair Lawn Police regarding an erratic driver on Route 208 Northbound. The vehicle was described as a silver or grey Porsche. Several moments later, P.O. Teegan observed a silver Porsche pass his location, and noted that the driver was operating the vehicle without headlights. He proceeded to follow the Porsche and observed that the driver was having difficulty maintaining a lane of travel and was drifting from side to side. He stopped the Porsche in the area of Russell Avenue to address the violations with the driver. The subsequent investigation resulted in the arrest of Kathleen Haddad, Franklin Lakes NJ, age; 64. She was transported into headquarters and charged with driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, failure to produce a registration card, failure to produce a valid insurance card, failure to use lights when required, refusal to submit to a chemical test, and consent to taking samples of breath. She was released to a family member pending a court date. Her vehicle was impounded and held for twelve hours under John's Law. Sgt. Mark Tagliareni assisted with the arrest.**

**On Wednesday October 10, at approximately 5 AM, P.O. Michael Teegan was patrolling in the area of Franklin Avenue and Godwin Avenue. He observed a male subject walking down the driveway of a group of stores that were closed. P.O. Teegan spoke with the subject, who could provide no legitimate reason for being in the area. He stated that he had parked his vehicle, a Honda CRV, in the parking lot of a nearby business and was walking the area to check for suspicious activity. As P.O. Teegan was speaking with him, he observed a Honda CRV exit from the rear parking lot of a closed business across the street. P.O. Teegan stopped the vehicle and detained the driver. The subsequent investigation resulted in the arrests of Hamilton W. Smith III, Keansburg NJ, age; 25 and Brandon Colombo, Clifton NJ, age; 26. Smith was charged with one count of receiving stolen property. Colombo was charged with one count of criminal trespass and one count of receiving stolen property. Both men were found to have active warrants from other jurisdictions. After being processed at headquarters, they were remanded to the Bergen County Jail. Det. Sgt. Michael Ragucci, Det. Sgt. Kevin Kasak, P.O. William Plisich, P.O. William Christopher, and P.O. Joseph Fullam assisted with the arrest and investigation.**

**Halloween is only a few short weeks away. The combination of darkness coming earlier and children's excitement about Halloween should heighten your awareness about driver and pedestrian safety. Children out trick or treating should carry a flashlight, glow stick, or reflective material in order to be seen by motorists. They should be cautioned about running into the roadway or between parked cars. Motorists should use extra caution on Halloween night as the potential for pedestrians being in the roadway after dark is increased. Chief Murphy would like to remind all of the following important Halloween safety message from the US Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:**

## *Drunk Driving*

### **DON'T LET DRUNK DRIVING SEND YOU TO AN EARLY GRAVE**

#### **Stats That Tell a Scary Tale**

Ghouls and goblins aren't the only scary sights lurking on Halloween. Drunk drivers put themselves and others at risk, and their actions can be deadly for you or a loved one. Halloween should be a night of good memories, not nightmares. This year, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is teaming up with local officials to help spread the message that *Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving*. Even one alcoholic beverage could be one too many for some drivers, so if you plan to drive, plan to refrain from alcohol. If you plan to drink, be sure to arrange a sober ride home in advance. Stay safe on Halloween night, and every night. Read these scary stats and commit to sober driving.

- During the Halloween holiday period (6 p.m. October 31 to 5:59 a.m. November 1) during the years 2012-2016, 168 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes.
- During the same Halloween holiday period, 44 percent of those killed were in traffic crashes that involved at least one drunk driver.
- In 2016, there were 13 vehicle occupants killed in drunk-driving-related crashes. However, there were zero pedestrians killed, which meant trick-or-treaters and other merry-makers were safer on the streets.
- The 21-to-34-year old age group accounted for the most fatalities (46%) in drunk-driving crashes on Halloween night in 2016.

#### **Plan Before You Party**

Don't let plans get away from you—it's imperative to your safety and the safety of others to plan a responsible ride home from the party. If you leave your house unprepared to get home safely, you may not make the best choices by the end of the night. Here are a few tips to help you prepare for a safe night out.

- Remember that it is never okay to drink and drive. Even if you've had only one alcoholic beverage, designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation or a ride sharing service to get home safely.
- Download NHTSA's SaferRide mobile app, available on Google Play for Android devices: (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.nhtsa.SaferRide&hl=en>), and Apple's iTunes Store for iOS devices: (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/saferride/id950774008?mt=8>). SaferRide allows users to call a taxi or a predetermined friend, and identifies the user's location so he or she can be picked up.

- **If you see a drunk driver on the road, dial 911.**
- **Have a friend who is about to drink and drive? Take the keys away and make arrangements to get your friend home safely.**

#### **One Way or Another, You'll Pay for Drunk Driving**

- **On average, a DUI can set you back \$10,000 in attorney's fees, fines, court costs, lost time at work, higher insurance rates, car towing and repairs, and more.**
- **The financial impact from impaired driving crashes can be devastating: based on 2010 numbers (the most recent year for which cost data is available), impaired-driving crashes cost the United States \$44 billion annually.**

**Always remember: *Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving*. For more information, visit [www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov](http://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov).**

*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.*

