



Wyckoff Police Department PRESS RELEASE

**TO: ALL NEWS MEDIA
FROM: Lt. Joseph Soto
DATE: September 27, 2019
CONTACT: Lt. Joseph Soto**

**(201) 891-2121 DISPATCH
wyckoffpolice@wyckoffpolice.org**

For Immediate Release:

On September 9 at approximately 6:15 AM, a Highview Drive resident reported that her 2016 Range Rover was taken from her driveway during the prior evening. The resident reported to P.O. Michael Flim that she believed that vehicle was left unlocked with the key fob inside of it. On September 17, the Hillside, NJ Police Department advised Wyckoff Police that the vehicle was recovered in their jurisdiction.

On September 9 at approximately 8:10 AM, a resident of Mulberry Court reported that his 2016 Infiniti Q50 was taken from his driveway during the prior evening. The resident reported to P.O. John Rafferty that the vehicle was left unlocked with the key fob inside of it. On September 24, the Newark, NJ Police advised Wyckoff Police that the vehicle was recovered in their jurisdiction.

On September 9 at approximately 8:50 AM, a Richard Place resident reported that his 2015 Lexus RX3 was taken from his driveway during the prior evening. The resident advised P.O. John Rafferty that he had left the vehicle unlocked with the key fob inside of it. On September 17, the East Orange, NJ Police Department advised Wyckoff Police that the Lexus had been recovered in their jurisdiction. The vehicle sustained minor damage and was bearing fictitious NY license plates at the time of the recovery.

The Wyckoff Police Department would once again like to take this opportunity to remind all residents to lock your cars at night, remove all valuables from them, and secure the key fob inside your home. Many vehicles are reported entered and or stolen during the overnight hours in our immediate area. Most, if not all of those cars were left unlocked with the key fob inside. Video footage captured of these brazen acts have revealed that if your car is locked, the thieves will simply move on until they find an unlocked car. Do not make yourself an easy victim, **LOCK YOUR CAR AND SECURE YOUR KEYS/FOBS.**

On September 16 at approximately 10:15 PM, Sgt. Mark Tagliareni was dispatched to a local residence on a report of an injured person. The subsequent investigation resulted in the arrest of Jason Tanis, Wyckoff NJ, age; 32. Tanis was transported into headquarters and charged with one count each of aggravated assault, unlawful possession of a weapon, and possession of a weapon for unlawful use. After processing, he was released from headquarters pending a court date. Det. Sgt. Kevin Kasak, P.O. Robert Schlossberg, and P.O. Joseph Fullam assisted with the investigation.

On September 20 at approximately 12:30 AM, P.O. Kevin Oldewurtel was on patrol when he observed a vehicle parked on Waverly Road with a female sleeping inside. While speaking with the female, she provided conflicting accounts to P.O. Oldewurtel on why she was sleeping in her vehicle. The subsequent investigation resulted in the arrest of Joanna Lee Mindrebo-Sleeper, Brooksville Fl., age; 54. She was transported into headquarters and charged with one count of possession of a controlled dangerous substance. She was also issued motor vehicle summonses for possession of a controlled dangerous substance in a motor vehicle, and possession of an open alcoholic beverage container in a motor vehicle. After processing, she was released from custody pending a court date. Sgt. Kevin Pinches, P.O. William Plisich, and P.O. James Bakelaar assisted with the arrest.

On September 23, at approximately 2:10 AM, P.O. Michael Scalise was on patrol when he observed a blue Honda Accord parked on Wyckoff Avenue in the area of Pinewood Drive. He observed that the Honda was partially off the roadway and a male was standing next to the vehicle. The subsequent investigation resulted in the arrest of Fredy Alexi Cruz Betancourt, Wyckoff NJ, age; 34. He was transported into headquarters and issued motor vehicle summonses for driving while intoxicated, driving while intoxicated in a school zone, failure to consent to the giving of breath samples, failure to observe traffic lanes, reckless driving, careless driving, and circumventing an ignition interlock device for another. After processing, he was released from headquarters pending a court date. His vehicle was impounded and held for twelve hours under John's Law.

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.