



## Wyckoff Police Department PRESS RELEASE

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**TO: ALL NEWS MEDIA**  
**FROM: Lt. Joseph Soto**  
**DATE: April 12, 2018**  
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### **For Immediate Release:**

**On Wednesday March 28, at approximately 3:10 PM, multiple Wyckoff units were dispatched to the scene of a motor vehicle crash with injuries on the ramp from Cedar Hill Avenue to Route 208 South. Arriving officers observed two vehicles were involved and were both heavily damaged. Evidence gathered at the scene determined that one of the vehicles had been travelling on Route 208 South and attempted to exit the highway at Cedar Hill Avenue. Due to excessive speed, the driver went off the roadway, crossed the grass median, and struck the other vehicle which was on the ramp to enter the highway. The driver of the vehicle that exited the highway was administered roadside field sobriety tests by Sgt. Brian Zivkovich. The subsequent investigation resulted in the arrest of Jeffrey C. Villarreal, Hawthorne NJ, age; 55. He was transported into headquarters for additional testing and charged with fourth degree assault by auto. He also was issued motor vehicle summonses for driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, failure to maintain a lane, and failure to keep right. After processing, he was released to a family member pending a court date.**

**On Thursday December 28, 2017, a Wyckoff resident reported the theft of her purse from a local business that occurred on December 24. She advised P.O. Kenneth Marcoux that she had forgotten the purse inside the store and when she went back to retrieve it, it was gone. With the assistance of the store's management, the video surveillance of the incident was reviewed. The video revealed that an unknown female had taken the purse and left the store with it. On February 19, 2018 the Wyckoff resident contacted Det. Sgt. Kevin Kasak and reported that all of the contents of her stolen purse, with the exception of \$45.00 in**

cash, were mailed to her home. There was no indication on the packaging to determine who sent it to her. Using images from the security footage, Det. Sgt. Kasak posted photos on the Wyckoff Police Departments Facebook page seeking assistance in identifying the female who took the purse. Based on information received, a possible suspect was identified. On March 30, the suspect was contacted and it was requested that she respond to headquarters to speak with Det. Sgt. Kasak. The subsequent investigation resulted in the arrest of Lisa M. Schaper, Dumont NJ, age; 52. Schaper was charged with one count of theft, a disorderly person's offense, processed, and released from headquarters pending a court date.

On Friday March 30, at approximately 9:50 AM, P.O. Michael Flim was running radar on Monroe Avenue. He observed a black pickup truck approaching his location at a high rate of speed. Activating the radar confirmed that the vehicle was travelling 47 MPH in the marked 25 MPH residential zone. P.O. Flim conducted a motor vehicle stop on Russell Avenue to speak with the driver about his speed. While speaking with the driver, P.O. Flim observed that he appeared to be extremely nervous and appeared to be shaking. The subsequent investigation resulted in the arrest of Mark J. Cava Jr., Oak Ridge NJ, age; 27. He was transported into headquarters and charged with possession of marijuana under 50 grams, and possession of narcotics paraphernalia. In addition, he received motor vehicle summonses for speeding, improper window tints, and possession of a controlled dangerous substance in a motor vehicle. P.O. Flim was assisted by Sgt. Michael DeMaio and P.O. Kyle Ferreira.

On Sunday April 1, 2018 at approximately 12:20 AM, P.O. Michael Scalise observed two vehicles pulled over on Route 208 North. He stopped at the location to see if the drivers needed assistance and discovered that the vehicles had been involved in an accident. While speaking with the driver of one of the vehicles, P.O. Scalise detected signs of intoxication. He administered roadside field sobriety testing that confirmed his suspicions. The driver, Sangmin J. Park, Wyckoff NJ, age; 18 was placed under arrest and transported into headquarters where additional testing was conducted. He was issued motor vehicle summonses for driving while intoxicated, underage person operating a motor vehicle after consuming alcohol, reckless driving, careless driving, failure to exhibit a registration card, failure to exhibit an insurance card, and following another vehicle too closely. After processing, he was released to a family member pending a court date. The vehicle was impounded under John's Law.

On Wednesday April 4, 2018 at approximately 3:05 AM, P.O. Robert Schlossberg was travelling on Monroe Avenue when he observed a vehicle in front of him travelling over the posted 25 MPH speed limit. He stopped the vehicle to address the violation with the driver. As he approached the vehicle, he detected a strong odor of raw marijuana emanating from it. While conducting a search of the vehicle, P.O. Schlossberg located suspected marijuana and a THC cartridge used in vaping devices. The driver, James E. Dotts Jr., Barrington NJ, age; 29 was placed under arrest and transported into headquarters. He was charged

with possession of marijuana under 50 grams and possession of narcotics paraphernalia. He was also issued a motor vehicle summons for speeding. After processing, he was released from headquarters pending a court date.

On Thursday April 5, at approximately 3:21 PM, multiple Wyckoff officers were dispatched to the scene of a motor vehicle crash on Route 208 North by Russell Avenue. It was reported that the driver was injured and trapped in the vehicle. Arriving officers observed a 2009 Chrysler Town and Country had overturned and was resting on the driver's side. The driver of the vehicle was trapped in her seat. P.O. Ryan Tenney entered the overturned vehicle through the rear door and assisted in freeing her from the vehicle. She was transported via ambulance to a nearby hospital to be evaluated for her injuries. No summonses were issued.

On Thursday April 5, at approximately 3:29 PM, Wyckoff officers were dispatched to the intersection of Franklin and Godwin Avenues on a report of a motor vehicle crash with injuries and entrapment. P.O. Michael Flim arrived on the scene and observed three cars were involved in the accident and were directly in the middle of the intersection. P.O. Flim, with assistance from Sgt. Michael DeMaio and Sgt. Brian Zivkovich rendered aid to the involved parties. The Wyckoff Fire Department responded and extricated the driver who was trapped in her vehicle. That driver was transported via Wyckoff Ambulance to a nearby medical facility to be evaluated for injuries sustained in the accident. The investigation into the accident revealed that one of the drivers, who was travelling south on Godwin Avenue, failed to stop for a red traffic signal and caused the collision. That driver was issued a summons for careless driving.

### **A message from the State of New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety and the Wyckoff Police Department Traffic Bureau:**

Distracted driving is a dangerous epidemic on New Jersey's roadways, being cited as a major contributing factor in over 804,000 motor vehicle crashes in the state from 2011 to 2015. Nationwide 3,450 people were killed in distracted driving crashes in 2016 alone.

To combat these troubling statistics, law enforcement agencies throughout New Jersey will be using a combination of traditional and innovative strategies to crack down on motorists who text and drive. This effort is part of the national *U Drive, U Text, U Pay* high visibility enforcement (HVE) campaign that combines periods of intense anti-texting enforcement coupled with advertising and media outreach to let people know about the enforcement and convince them to obey the law. *U Drive, U Text, U Pay* enforcement strategies include roving police patrols, spotters on highway overpasses, and stationary police vehicles prominently placed at strategic locations.

**Historically, the most effective tool used to change driver behavior are targeted law enforcement campaigns, like *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* and *Click It or Ticket*. Since their inception, these two initiatives have resulted in significant reductions in impaired driving and gains in seat belt usage, respectively.**

**Distracted driving is any activity that could divert a person's attention away from the primary task of driving. All distractions endanger driver, passenger, and bystander safety. These types of distractions include:**

- **Texting**
- **Using a cell phone or smartphone**
- **Eating and drinking**
- **Talking to passengers**
- **Grooming**
- **Reading, including maps**
- **Using a navigation system**
- **Watching a video**
- **Adjusting a radio, CD player, or MP3 player**

**But, because text messaging requires visual, manual, and cognitive attention from the driver, it is by far the most alarming distractions.**

***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.***

