

TO: ALL NEWS MEDIA FROM: Lt. Joseph Soto DATE: December 11, 2017 CONTACT: Lt. Joseph Soto

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For Immediate Release:

On Friday November 3, P.O. Ryan Tenney was dispatched to Walgreens, 525 Cedar Hill Avenue to take a report of shopliftings that occurred in the past. The manager reported that the three suspects had shoplifted cans of baby formula on October 29 and again on November 2. Both incidents occurred at approximately 7:15 PM. Det. Sgt. Kevin Kasak obtained images of the actors from the store's surveillance system and disseminated them to area law enforcement agencies. On Friday November 24 at approximately 4:19 PM, Det. Sgt. Kasak and P.O. Kaitlyn Maglione were dispatched to Walgreens, 525 Cedar Hill Avenue on a report that the same subjects had returned to the store. Prior to their arrival, the suspects had left the store in a silver Honda Civic bearing NJ registration. At approximately 4:22 PM, P.O. Noon observed the silver Honda entering the parking lot of the Walgreens at 655 Wyckoff Avenue. P.O. Ryan Noon observed a female occupant of the vehicle enter the store and then exit and return to the vehicle a few minutes later. A motor vehicle stop was conducted and the subsequent investigation resulted in the arrests of Arnisha S. Tinney, Newark NJ age; 23, Saleema H. Alexander, Irvington NJ, age; 36, and Quiann J. McEachin-Alexande, Paterson NJ, age; 24. Alexander and Alexander-McEachin were charged with receiving stolen property and 2 counts each of shoplifting. Tinney was charged with receiving stolen property. Tinney and Alexander-McEachin were processed and released from custody and are scheduled to appear in court. Alexander was found to have outstanding warrants and was remanded to the Bergen County Jail. P.O. James Bakelaar and P.O. John Rafferty assisted with the arrest and investigation.

On Friday November 27 at approximately 3:40 PM, P.O. Kenneth Marcoux was dispatched to the rear of the Cedar Hill Shopping Center to take a report of a suspicious person. The person was observed by P.O. Marcoux and detained. P.O. Marcoux recognized the person as Jaime D. Bauer, Wyckoff NJ, age; 29. Bauer was found to have a warrant for his arrest from Hawthorne NJ. While being taken into custody on the Hawthorne warrant, Bauer was found to be in possession of a controlled dangerous substance and controlled dangerous substance paraphernalia. He was transported into headquarters, charged, and remanded to the Bergen County Jail.

On Thursday December 7 at approximately 7:20 PM, P.O. William Plisich and P.O. Kyle Ferreira were dispatched to the scene of a motor vehicle accident at the intersection of Wyckoff Avenue and Cedar Hill Avenue. While investigating the accident, the officers suspected that one of the drivers was under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. Field sobriety testing was conducted and resulted in the arrest of Kenneth J. Andrito, Wyckoff NJ, age; 57. Andrito was transported into headquarters where additional testing was conducted. He was charged with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence, reckless driving, failure to exhibit registration, and failure to exhibit insurance. His vehicle was impounded under John's Law and after processing he was released to the custody of a family member. He is scheduled to appear in court. Det. Sgt. Kevin Kasak and P.O. Michael Flim assisted with the arrest.

Orange and Rockland Utilities has recently advised that criminals are posing as O&R employees. They have posted some of the most recent scams on their website. The information can be found at: <a href="https://www.oru.com/en/home-energy-safety/beware-of-scammers">https://www.oru.com/en/home-energy-safety/beware-of-scammers</a>. Please be sure to share this information with your neighbors, family members, and the elderly, who often fall victim to such scams.

The Wyckoff Police Department would once again like to remind all residents to lock your car doors, keep valuables out of sight, and remove all keys and key fobs from your vehicles. Our area has been experiencing an increase in motor vehicle thefts and burglaries. In almost all instances, the victims have reported leaving their vehicles unlocked with the key fobs in them. It cannot be stressed enough to not make yourself an easy victim!!!

With the onset of the Holiday Season, the Wyckoff Police would like to remind all residents to be alert for any suspicious behavior or activity. Among the crimes that increase during this time are residential burglaries, package thefts, shopliftings, phone scams, frauds, and motor vehicle burglaries. If you see something that you feel is out of place or seems suspicious, contact the police department immediately. Your call should include a description of the actor(s), a vehicle description, and the direction that they were travelling. Working together, we can make the Holiday Season a safe and happy one for all of our residents, businesses, and visitors.

A particular scam which continues to be perpetrated among the elderly is known as the "Grandparent Scam". Typically a call will be placed to a grandparent by someone posing as a grandchild who is in trouble. The caller will claim that they were in a car accident and have been arrested as a result and in need of bail money. The call will come from an unknown number and the caller will claim that their cell phone was lost or damaged in the accident. They will claim to be injured or under the influence, providing a reason for not sounding like themselves. They will also plead with the grandparent to not advise other family members for fear of embarrassment. They will request that the grandparent purchase gift cards usually totaling thousands of dollars. Once the cards have been purchased, the scammer will request that the account number on the gift cards and the PIN number be given to them over the phone. Once this information is received, the scammer is able to immediately withdraw the funds from the account. The Wyckoff Police would like to remind you that no legitimate Government agency will request or accept payment in the form of gift cards. If you receive such a call, you should make attempts to contact family members to verify the information and check the safety and welfare of the reported injured grandchild. Family members of elderly residents are encouraged to have an open and honest dialogue with them about being scammed and the steps they should take to prevent becoming a victim.

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.