



WILDWOOD CREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Type of Incident: Fraud/Forgery

Location: Wildwood Crest

Date: December 17, 2021

Time: 1:39pm

Person(s) Involved: Jose Bernardino and Annemarie Rizzi

Age: Bernardino (53); Rizzi (52)

Address: Bernardino- Marlton, NJ; Rizzi- Philadelphia, PA

Charges: Conspiracy- 2nd Degree, Theft- 2nd Degree, Assumes False Identity- 2nd Degree, Forgery- 3rd Degree, False/Tampering with a Record- 4th Degree, Fraud- DP.

Officer(s) Involved: Dsg. James Mulholland, Dcpl. James Collins, Det. Augustin Pastor

Summary: On Friday, December 17, 2021 Wildwood Crest Police Department received a report of a fraud and forgery of a deed to a residence on Seaview Avenue in Wildwood Crest made by a family member of the victim. The victim learned of the forged deed after receiving notification from the Borough of Wildwood Crest informing of a change in ownership made to the residence.

After a three month long investigation by Wildwood Crest Detectives, it was learned that Annemarie Rizzi and Jose Bernardino allegedly forged and filed false documents with the Cape May County Clerk's Office during the months between July 2021 and September 2021 to effectuate the theft in excess of \$500,000.

Both, Bernardino and Rizzi, were issued warrants for their arrest on February 15, 2022 charging them with Forgery, Fraud-Public Record, Conspiracy, Theft, Falsifying/Tampering with Records, and Assuming False Identity. Bernardino was arrested by Evesham Police Department on February 15, 2022 and Rizzi turned herself in at the Wildwood Crest Police Department on February 21, 2022.

Following their arrests, Bernardino and Rizzi were lodged in the Cape May County Correctional Facility awaiting a detention hearing.

It should be noted that all person(s) arrested are innocent until proven guilty.