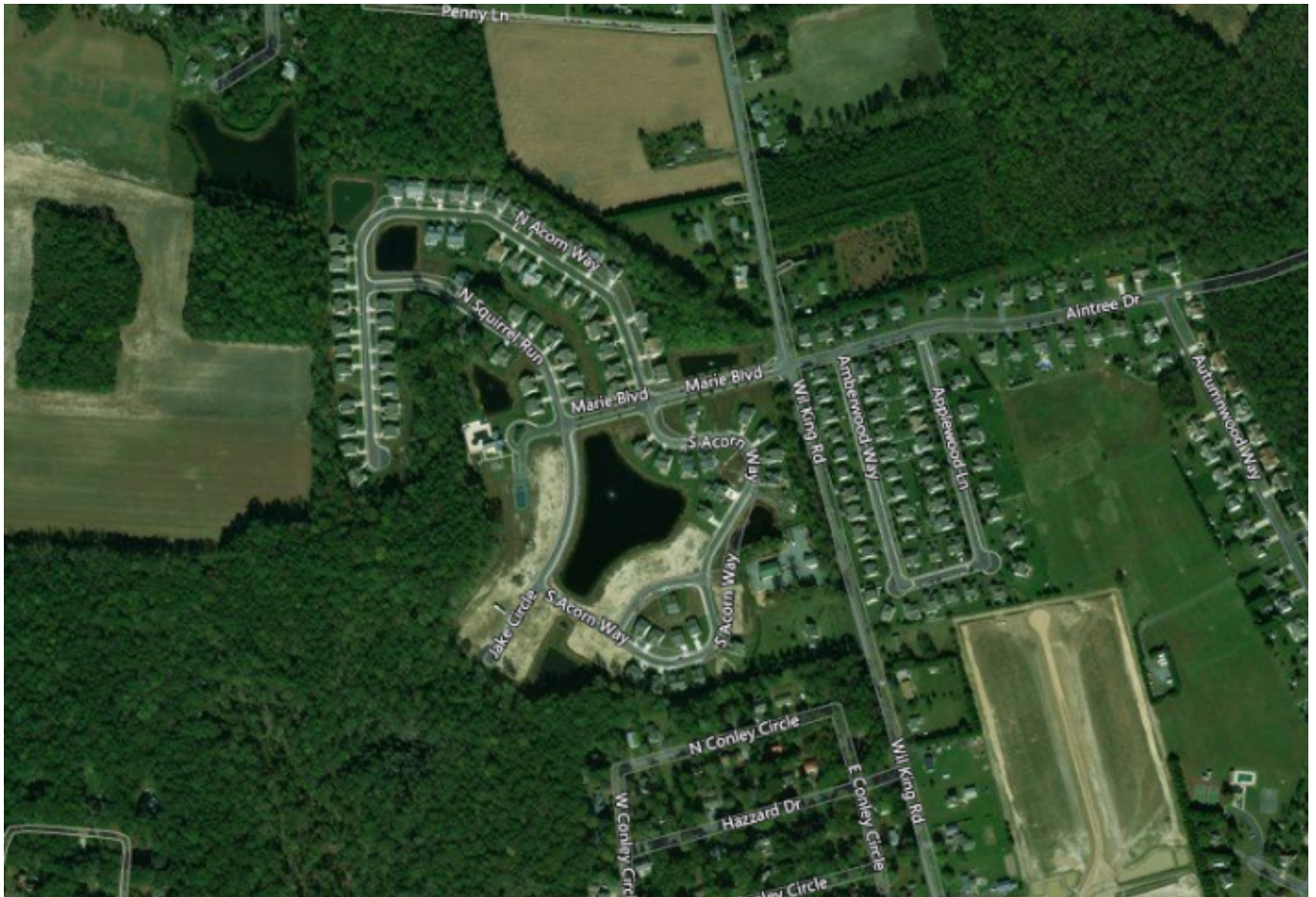


Troopers Investigating Thefts of Packages From Front Porches



Lewes – The Delaware State Police are currently investigating the thefts of multiple packages from front porches in which one suspect has been arrested and a second is still at large.

The incident occurred at approximately 4:20 p.m., Wednesday, December 20, 2017, in the 21000 block of Acorn Way, Oakwood Village at Lewes, as a suspect was observed running up to a front porch, removing packages, and then fleeing in a white Kia Optima. Through investigative measures, the suspect identified as 55-year-old **Mary E. Murphy** of Lewes was arrested on Felony Theft, Theft, Tampering With Physical Evidence, Falsifying Business Records, Hindering Prosecution, Conspiracy

3rd, Criminal Mischief, and two counts of Criminal Trespass 3rd. Murphy was arraigned out of Justice of the Peace Court 3 and released on \$3351.00 unsecured bond.

A second suspect in this case has been identified as 32-year-old **Derek J. Rice** of Lewes. Rice is described as a white male, 5'05" tall, 160 lbs., with red hair and blue eyes. Troopers have obtained a warrant for the arrest of Rice, however they have been unable to locate him at this time.

The investigation is ongoing and anyone who has information regarding the whereabouts of **Rice** or any other individuals who may have been a victim are asked to please contact Troop 7 at 302-644-5020. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware crime stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at <http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com>

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Melissa Jaffe

Released: 122117 0957

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