

State Police Arrest Hockessin Man for Stabbing Incident at Wawa in Hockessin

The Delaware State Police have arrested 36-year-old **Matthew Ralston**, of Hockessin, Delaware, for felony assault and related offenses following a stabbing incident that occurred Sunday morning at a Wawa in Hockessin.

On August 16, 2026, at approximately 3:00 a.m., troopers responded to Wawa, located at 605 Yorklyn Road in Hockessin, for a report of a stabbing. When troopers arrived, they found that the suspect, identified as Matthew Ralston, was being restrained by Wawa employees and he was taken into custody without incident. The investigation revealed that Ralston entered the store, made a purchase, exited, but remained in the parking lot. A short time later, Ralston re-entered the store, went behind the counter, pulled a knife then threatened and tried to stab an employee. Ralston left the knife on the counter and left the store. Ralston again re-entered the store, grabbed the knife and began waving it over his head before leaving again. Ralston once again re-entered the store, approached an employee who was calling 9-1-1, lunged and swung the knife at her, cutting her hand. Other Wawa employees disarmed and subdued Ralston until troopers arrived. The victim was taken to an area hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Ralston was taken to Troop 6, where he was charged with the crimes listed below, arraigned by the Justice of the Peace, and committed to the Department of Correction on a \$46,000 cash bond.

- Possession of a Deadly Weapon During the Commission of a Felony (Felony) – 3 counts

- Assault 2nd Degree – Recklessly or Intentionally Causes Physical Injury – Weapon (Felony)
- Attempted to Commit Assault 2nd Degree – Recklessly or Intentionally Causes Physical Injury -Weapon (Felony)
- Aggravated Menacing (Felony)