

Delaware State Police Charge Viola Man With Attempted Murder After Officer Involved Shooting –

Viola- Delaware State Police arrested 28-year-old **Ronald Cochran** of Viola, for attempted murder and related charges following an officer involved shooting incident Wednesday night.

On December 30, 2020, at approximately 5:32 p.m., troopers were dispatched to 201 East Evens Drive, Viola in reference to a disorderly subject with a gun. Upon arrival, troopers located a witness at the residence who advised the suspect, Ronald Cochran, was inside the bathroom of the residence with a gun stating he was going to shoot up the place. Troopers gave commands to Cochran through an open exterior door to exit the residence, but he fled up the stairs to the second story.

Cochran then climbed out of a second story window onto the roof of the first floor and fired two gunshots towards two troopers on scene. Both troopers, a five year veteran trooper and a one year of service trooper returned fire. Cochran made his way to west side of the residence where he jumped to the ground and ran to the front of the residence. Once at the front of the residence, Cochran pointed his weapon at a third trooper who was covering the front of the residence. The three years of service trooper then fired a round towards Cochran. Cochran fled to a residence approximately 100 yards from 201 East Evens Drive and laid on the porch of the residence suffering from gunshots wounds to the upper extremities.

Troopers quickly responded to that residence and rendered

first aid to Cochran. Upon contact, troopers discovered Cochran was still in possession of a .40 caliber handgun. Cochran suffered gunshot wounds to the right bicep and right shoulder. He was treated and released from an area hospital.

No troopers were injured in the incident.

Cochran was released from the hospital and transported to Delaware State Police Troop 3, where he was charged with the following crimes:

- Attempted Murder 1st Degree (felony) – 2 counts
- Possession of a Firearm by a Person Prohibited (felony)
- Possession of a Firearm during the Commission of a Felony (felony) – 3 counts
- Reckless Endangering 1st Degree

Cochran was arraigned in the Justice of the Peace Court #7 and committed to Sussex Correctional Institution on an \$168,000.00 cash bond.

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1-800-842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@state.de.us.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 123120 1015

Troopers Conducting Criminal Investigation East Evens Road – Viola

Viola– Delaware State Police are currently conducting a criminal investigation in the area of the 200 block of East Evens Road, Viola. As a result, there will be a heavy police presence in the area. There is a road closure on East Evens Road, starting at Turkey Point Road and ending at Route 13.

The investigation is in the early stages and further updates will be released at a later time.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 123020 2138

***Update- Suspect Arrested* Troopers Seeking Public's Assistance Locating Dover Man for Weapon Charges- Townsend**

Townsend- The Delaware State Police have arrested 29-year-old **Andrew Parsons** of Dover, for Reckless Endangering and related charges.

The incident occurred on December 18, 2020, at approximately 5:23 p.m., when troopers responded to Union Church Road for an incident involving a gun. The investigation determined Parsons engaged in a verbal argument with a 46-year-old male victim at the residence. As the male began walking away from the argument, Parsons fired a single round into the ground several feet from the subject. Parsons then fled the scene.

On December 28, 2020, troopers located Parsons at a residence on Gravesend Road, Smyrna, DE. Parsons was taken into custody without incident and transported back to back to Troop 2 where he was charged with the following:

- Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony (Felony)
- Possession of a Firearm Within Ten Years of Prior Conviction (Felony)
- Reckless Endangering 1st Degree (Felony)

Parsons was arraigned in the Justice of the Peace Court #2 and committed to the Howard R. Young Correctional Institution on

\$45,000 cash bond.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 122920 1143

-End-

Delaware State Police

Investigating Attempted Robbery of Dollar Store – New Castle

New Castle- The Delaware State Police are investigating an attempted robbery that occurred at a Dollar General located in New Castle, DE.

The incident occurred on December 28, 2020 at approximately 5:51 p.m., when Troopers were dispatched to the Dollar General located at 1403 DuPont Parkway, New Castle for a report of a robbery. Upon arrival, it was learned that a male suspect approached the sales counter and handed an employee working the cash register a note implying he had a gun and demanded all the cash. The employee was unable to open the cash register; subsequently, the suspect fled the scene on foot without taking any money.

There were no injuries as a result of the incident.

There are currently no photos of the suspect available at this time.

The suspect was described as a male wearing all dark clothing.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Detective Harris of Troop 2 at 302-365-8410. 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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VICTIM-1. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@delaware.gov.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 122920 0920

***Update- Name Released* Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Motor Vehicle Collision- Middletown**

Middletown— Delaware State Police have identified the name of the individual who died in a crash on December 24, 2020 on Marl Pit Road east of Summit Bridge Road, Middletown, as 90-year-old **Walter Gee** of Middletown, DE.

The crash continues to remain under investigation by the Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit.

[Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Motor Vehicle Collision- Middletown](#)

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 122820 1251

-End-

***Update- Name Released* Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Crash- Newark**

Newark— Delaware State Police have identified the name of the individual who died in a crash on December 24, 2020 on State Route 1 south of Interstate 95, Newark, as 34-year-old **David West** of Bear, DE.

The crash continues to remain under investigation by the Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit.

[Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Crash-Newark](#)

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 122820 1238

-End-

Troopers Arrest Lewes Man for 5th Offense DUI and Criminal Charges- Rehoboth Beach

Rehoboth Beach – The Delaware State Police have arrested 35-year-old **Benjamin Buckley** of Lewes for felony DUI and criminal charges after troopers responded to an overdose complaint.

The incident occurred on December 26, 2020, at approximately 10:24 p.m., when troopers were dispatched to Walmart located at 18922 Rehoboth Mall Boulevard, Rehoboth Beach, for a subject passed out inside of his vehicle with a syringe in his arm. Prior to trooper's arrival, the subject drove away. Troopers then responded to the registered owner's residence, and located the subject still seated in the driver seat with the ignition on. Upon contact with the operator, identified as Benjamin Buckley, troopers observed signs of impairment and an

odor of marijuana was detected emitting from the vehicle. A DUI investigation ensued and a computer inquiry revealed Buckley had four previous DUI convictions.

A subsequent probable cause search of the vehicle led to the discovery of approximately 3.42 grams of marijuana, approximately .33 grams of crack cocaine, approximately .56 grams of heroin, 4 Buprenorphine Hydrochloride pills, and 1 Gabapentin pill.

Buckley was taken into custody without incident and transported to Troop 7 where he was charged with the following crimes:

- 5th Offense DUI-alcohol (felony)
- Possession of a Controlled Substance – 3 counts
- Possession of a Prescription Drug without a Prescription
- Possession of Marijuana
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- Failure to Have Insurance Identification in Possession

Buckley was arraigned in Justice of the Peace Court #7 and committed to Sussex Correctional Institution in lieu of \$5,401.00 secured bail.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

-End-

Delaware State Police Investigating Robbery of Dollar Store – Bear

Bear- The Delaware State Police are investigating a robbery that occurred at a Dollar General located in Bear, DE.

The incident occurred on December 26, 2020 at approximately 7:05 p.m., when Troopers were dispatched to the Dollar General located at 1679 Pulaski Highway, Bear for a report of a robbery. Upon arrival, it was learned that a male suspect approached the sales counter and handed an employee working the cash register a note implying he had a gun and demanded all the cash. The employee complied and the suspect fled the scene on foot with an undisclosed amount of money.

There were no injuries as a result of the incident.

There are currently no photos of the suspect available at this time.

The suspect was described as a male wearing all dark clothing.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Trooper Guevara of Troop 2 at 302-834-2620. 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, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 122720 0905

-End-

Harrington Man Arrested for Reckless Endangering after Shooting Incident- Houston

Houston— The Delaware State Police arrested 30-year-old **Dustin Edge** of Harrington for Reckless Endangering and related

charges for a shooting incident on December 25, 2020, at approximately 11:00 p.m.

Troopers responded to a residence located on Williamsville Road, Houston, for a report of a shooting. Through investigative means, it was determined Edge had a verbal altercation with a 49-year-old male acquaintance inside of the residence. During the argument Edge displayed a handgun at the victim and threatened to shoot him. Edge then fired one round at the victim striking the floor. The victim was not injured.

Edge fled the residence prior to police arrival. During the investigation, troopers located Edge hiding underneath a mobile home near the victims residence. Edge resisted and did not comply with Troopers commands to come out from underneath the mobile home. Edge was subsequently apprehended by a State Police Canine and taken into custody.

Edge was transported to Troop 3 where he was charged with the following crimes:

- Reckless Endangering 1st Degree (felony)
- Aggravated Menacing
- Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony (felony)
- Possession of a Firearm/Destructive Weapon If Previously Convicted of Two Violent Felonies (felony)
- Carrying A Concealed Deadly Weapon
- Resisting Arrest

Edge was arraigned in Justice of the Peace Court #7 and was committed to Sussex Correctional Institution on a \$42,000 cash bond.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 122620 0845

-End-

Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Motor Vehicle Collision- Middletown

Middletown- Delaware State Police is investigating a fatal motor vehicle crash that occurred on Marl Pit Road east of Summit Bridge Road on Thursday afternoon.

On December 24, 2020, at approximately 1:38 p.m., a 2017 Silver Nissan Rogue operated by a 21-year-old male of Bear was traveling eastbound on Marl Pit Road in the direction of Cedar

Lane Road. A gray 2020 Kia Soul was traveling eastbound on Marl Pit Road directly behind the Rogue. A 2019 black BMW X3 was traveling westbound in the same area on Marl Pit Road in the direction of Summit Bridge Road.

While traveling behind the Nissan, the Kia crosses the double line and begins to pass the Nissan on the left side. As the Kia was passing the Nissan, it traveled into the path of the BMW, and the front of the Kia collided with the front of the BMW. After the collision, the Kia entered back into the eastbound lane and the right front side collided with the left front side of the Nissan.

After the collisions, the vehicles remained on scene.

The Kia operated by a 90-year-old male of Middletown was pronounced at the scene. Identification is pending notification to next of kin. The BMW, driven by an 80-year-old male of Middletown, was transported to an area hospital in serious condition. The Nissan operated by a 21-year-old male of Bear was uninjured.

Marl Pit Road between Summit Bridge Road and Cedar Lane Road was closed for approximately 3 hours while the crash was investigated and the roadway cleared.

This crash remains under investigation. Anyone with information should contact Cpl/3 J. Breen with Delaware State Police Troop 2 Crash Reconstruction Unit by calling 302-365-8486. 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
Heather Pepper

Released: 122620 0040

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