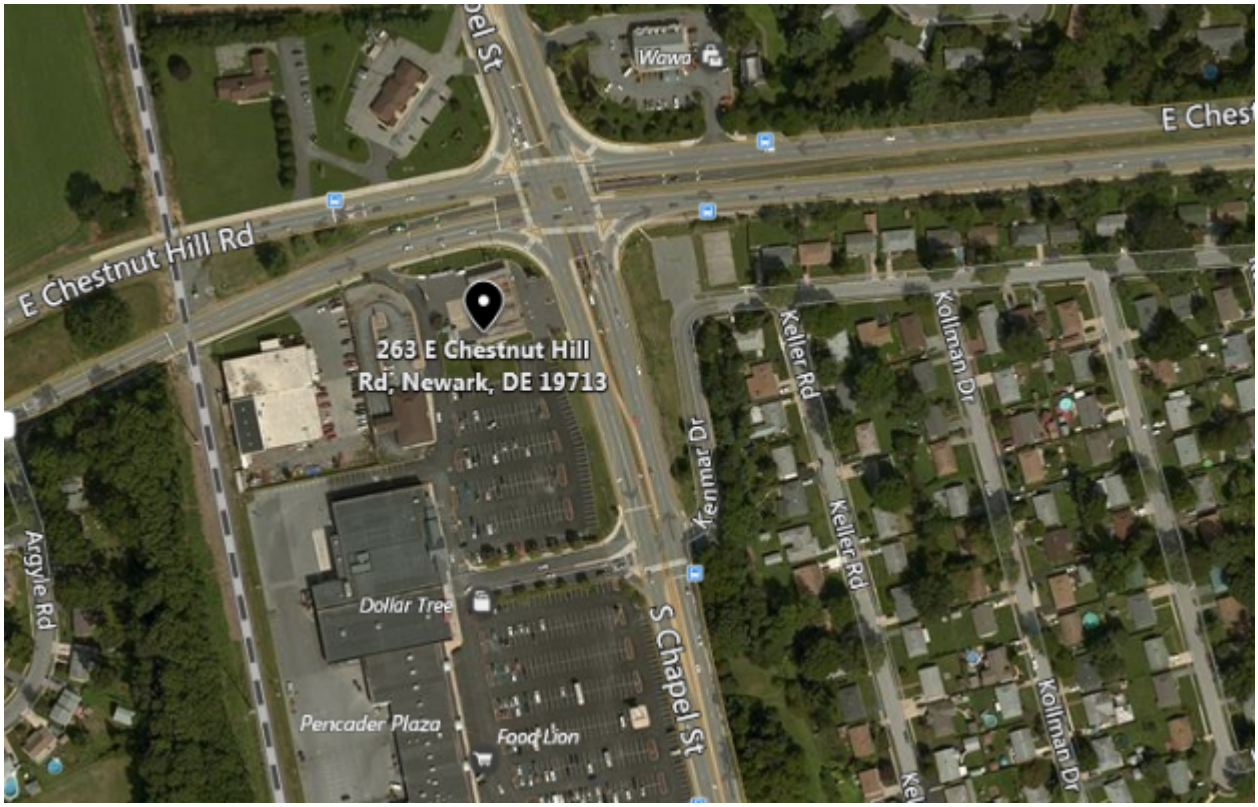
Troopers Investigating Armed Robbery of Newark Gas Station



Newark (19713) – The Delaware State Police are investigating the armed robbery of a Newark gas station that took place early Thursday morning.

The incident occurred at approximately 4:26 a.m., Thursday, July 5, 2018 at the Exxon gas station located at 263 E. Chestnut Hill Road. An employee had gone outside to take a break when he was approached from behind by a suspect demanding he open the doors to the business. The victim complied with the demands, unlocked the business, and realized at this point there were a total of three suspects. Once inside, the victim, held at gun point, was ordered to open up the cash register. While the victim opened the cash drawer, one of the suspects removed and undisclosed amount of cash, while a second suspect removed several boxes of blunts and cigarettes.

All three suspects exited the store in an unknown direction. The store clerk was not injured as a result of this incident.

All three suspects were described as black males, approximately 5’09” to 5’10” tall, wearing hoodies, jeans, and ski masks. One suspect was armed with a handgun, and a second suspect was armed with a blunt force object. The third suspect was unarmed.

No surveillance images are available at this time.

The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact the Troop 2 Robbery Unit at 302-365-8566. 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

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. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@delaware.gov.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal

Melissa Jaffe

Released: 070618 1632

-End-

Troopers Seek Public's Assistance in Identifying Attempted Robbery Suspect

Harrington– The Delaware State Police are asking for the public's assistance in identifying the above pictured suspect who is wanted in connection with an attempted robbery.

The incident occurred on June 29, 2018 at approximately 10:30 p.m., after the victim agreed to provide the suspect with a ride home from the Harrington Casino. The 59-year-old male victim from Bridgeville, advised that he was at the casino when he saw an acquaintance and engaged in a conversation. The victim stated that the acquaintance proceeded to ask him for a ride home, as he indicated that his vehicle would not start. The victim advised that he attempted to provide assistance in starting the vehicle, however was unsuccessful.

The victim stated that he headed southbound on South Dupont Highway (Rt. 13), when he was directed by the suspect to back roads in the Harrington/Farmington area. While stopped on the roadway, the victim claimed that the suspect held a screwdriver to his neck and demanded money. A struggle ensued and the victim was able to take the screwdriver away from the suspect. The suspect then fled from the vehicle and the scene in an unknown direction.

The suspect was described as an Hispanic male, approximately 5’ 05” tall, 135-150 lbs. with black hair shaved on the sides and pulled back into a ponytail, wearing a red shirt, blue jeans, and white sneakers. The suspect’s vehicle was described as an older model red or burgundy colored passenger car with a black hood.

Anyone with information regarding the identity of the pictured suspect or the incident is asked to please contact Detective R. Wright by calling 302-698-8429. 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: 070518 1355

-End-

Troopers Arrest Millsboro Man on Multiple Burglary Charges – Millsboro

Millsboro-Delaware State Police have arrested a Millsboro man in connection with multiple burglaries and other related charges.

During June and July, Delaware State Police Troop 4 Patrol Units investigated several complaints which identified Charles N. West Jr., 22 of Millsboro, as the suspect. Further investigative measures revealed West sold stolen coins from one of the burglaries to a pawn shop in Laurel. After evidence linking him to the burglaries and a theft of a dirt bike and numerous stolen tools additional arrest warrants were obtained.

The investigation led detectives with the assistance of patrol troopers to a residence located on Jones Church Road in Frankford. At approximately 10:20 a.m., today the suspect, Charles N. West Jr. was observed leaving the residence in a Ford Ranger. A traffic stop was conducted on the vehicle and Charles West Jr. was immediately taken into custody without incident. A subsequent search located a firearm on his person as well as another firearm in the vehicle with numerous rounds of ammunition, also located was drug paraphernalia and 11 bags of heroin. Over $7,800.00 in suspected drug proceeds were located in the vehicle.

Charles N. West Jr. was transported to Troop 4, Georgetown where he was charged with Burglary 2nd degree, Burglary 3rd degree, 2 counts of Felony Theft, Non-Compliance with Bond, Theft False Pretense, Falsifying Business Records, Selling Stolen Property and Criminal Mischief. Additional warrants are pending for 2 counts of Carrying a Concealed Deadly Weapon,

Possession of Heroin and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. West was arraigned before Justice of the Peace Court 3 and committed to the Sussex Correctional Institution in default of $2500.00.

Anyone with information regarding Charles N. West Jr. is asked to contact Detective T. Powell at Troop 4, Georgetown at 302-752-3807.

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 the Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard Bratz

Released: 070418 1741

-End-

Delaware State Trooper Bridges the Communication Gap with Foreign Students at the Beach

Trooper Irina Celpan recently graduated, from the Delaware State Police Training Academy, in February of this year and has swiftly put her language skills to use. She is newly assigned to Troop 4 in Georgetown and is fluent in Russian, Romanian in addition to English.

Trooper Celpan, from the charming nation of Moldova, has first-hand experience as a J-1 student during her time spent here in the Summer of 2012. She participated in the work-study based exchange and visitor program that promotes cultural interactions where visitors teach, study, receive training or demonstrate special skills. The J-1 program is also for students who need practical training that is not available to them in their home country. Trooper Celpan's Eastern European roots and excellent language skill sets have made her a great asset for the Delaware State Police and our local law enforcement partners alike.

Trooper Celpan is lauded for her efforts and goodwill by her colleagues. She graciously makes herself available to the students working at the beach and makes them feel she is approachable. She has been in high demand from our local law enforcement partners at the beach to help them with their community outreach efforts.

Trooper Celpan has attended three Foreign Safety Seminars on May 30th, June 13th, and June 27th that were held at the Edgewater House, Sea Colony in Bethany Beach. Working with the Bethany Beach Police Department, Trooper Celpan educated the

Foreign J-1 Students on Bicycle Safety laws, Victimization and Personal Safety this summer. She had the opportunity to share experiences from her perspective as a student. She explained to the students the importance of having goals and pursuing them. She also touched on the differences between police in the United States and police back home in her country of Moldova.

On June 26th, 2018, she was invited to Saint Martha's Church Parish Hall in Bethany for the International Student Picnic. While working with the Ocean View Police Department, Trooper Celpan attended this event with over 100 students from Romania, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Croatia, Poland, Ireland and Kazakhstan. The church volunteers welcomed the students with local foods such as hamburgers, hotdogs, fried chicken, and cookies. It was an opportunity for them to meet other students and local residents. Trooper Celpan spoke to both Romanian and Russian students and answered questions about summer jobs, housing, trips, vehicle rentals, shopping and local transportation.

Background:

Trooper Irina Celpan worked as a cashier in Bethany Beach at the Valero Gas Station on Route 26, and her second job was at Tim's Aloha on the boardwalk serving shaved ice. She had only two days off during the summer of 2012 and never complained working toward her personal goals. She learned the quality of hard work and the ability of surviving in a country full of strangers.

She learned to speak English after she arrived in the United States and said, "It was challenging but not impossible!"

She bought her first vehicle during the Winter of 2013, which it helped "me to spread my wings towards other jobs, other towns." She was later, hired at IHOP in Rehoboth as a server. She met many friendly and regular customers that encouraged

her to go to college.

In August of 2015, she registered at the Delaware Technical and Community College in Georgetown. She took Advanced English classes during the first semester at DTCC and obtained a certificate for finishing “English as a Second Language” program. She pursued all the classes for a Criminal Justice Major. She participated in the Law Enforcement Option Program during the last semester and graduated from the Delaware Technical and Community College with a 4.0 Grade Point Average with the Outstanding Student Award in 2017.

She also joined the Dover Cadet program for two years, where she enforced city ordinance violations and provided security and assistance at special events.

Quote:

“I truly believe if you communicate to people in a way they can understand, one can make a connection however; if you speak to them in their own language, it can touch their heart. I, as a Delaware State Trooper, want tourists, international students, and locals to understand that “Justice” has no limits and they should not be afraid to trust us.”

“I want to thank my administration for allowing me to attend to all the J-1 student meetings! I enjoyed every single second being around them and explaining to them the importance of trusting police. I answered questions about personal safety, bicycle safety laws, and police departments. I spoke to some students in Romanian and to other students in Russian. I received positive feedback from the Sea Colony Staff and the Saint Martha’s Church volunteers. Thank you so much!”

Respectfully, Trooper Irina Celpan, Delaware State Police

Presented by the Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard Bratz

Released: 070418 1241

-End-

Troopers Investigate Crash Involving a Police Vehicle



Middletown **–** The Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit is currently investigating a crash involving a Delaware State Trooper that occurred last night.

The initial investigation has determined that at approximately 6:29 p.m., Tuesday, July 3, 2018 a Trooper assigned out of Troop 9, Odessa was responding to the Roth Bridge (SR 1), in reference to a suicidal subject possibly about to jump off the

bridge.

The Trooper, who was operating a fully marked, Delaware State Police Chevrolet Tahoe, with it’s lights and siren activated, was traveling U.S. Route 13 northbound in the right lane, proceeding through the intersection with Pole Bridge Road. The traffic light for U.S. 13 northbound was cycled to red.

A 2007 Jeep Compass, operated by a 61 year old Yeadon, Pennsylvania man was traveling westbound on Pole Bridge Road approaching the intersection with U.S. 13. The traffic light for westbound Pole Bridge Road had just cycled to yellow when the Jeep proceeded into the intersection with the intent to continue westbound on to Boyds Corner Road.

As both vehicles entered in to the intersection, the front end of the Jeep struck the right, rear side of the Tahoe. After the collision the Tahoe came to rest on the southbound side of the intersection, facing northbound. The Jeep came to rest on the southbound side of the intersection, facing eastbound.

The Trooper, who was properly restrained was transported to the Christiana Hospital and treated for non-life threatening injuries.

The operator of the Jeep, who was also properly restrained, was not injured.

Impairment is not a factor on behalf of either operator.

Both the U.S. 13 northbound and southbound lanes were restricted to a single lane of travel as the crash was investigated and cleared.

The investigation is ongoing with further details being released as they become available.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released: 070418 1110

-End-

UPDATE-Suspect Video Released Troopers Investigate Armed Robbery of Wilmington Liquor Store

[wpvideo oHKjEBc1]

[wpvideo Jb6w1JPH]

Wilmington, De. (19804)- Delaware State Police detectives are continuing their investigation of an armed robbery that occurred on Tuesday, June 26, 2018, at approximately 12:32 a.m., at Ted's Liquors located at 1202 Newport Gap Pike, Wilmington, and are asking for the public's assistance in identifying one of the suspects.

One of the two suspects involved in the robbery was captured on this surveillance video as he walked in front of the business just prior to the robbery occurring.

Anyone with information regarding the identity or whereabouts of the suspect in the video is asked to contact Detective B. McDerby at 302 365-8436.

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 Michael Austin

Released:070418 1105

-End-

UPDATE Troopers Investigating Fatal Motor Vehicle Crash Involving Pedestrian I-95 – Claymont

Claymont – The Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit is continuing their investigation in to a fatal motor vehicle crash involving a pedestrian that occurred at approximately 4:26 p.m., Sunday, July 1, 2018 on I-95 northbound in the area of Harvey Road, Claymont.

At approximately 4:15 p.m., this same date, Brian L. Evans, 29, of Claymont, was a driver involved in a motor vehicle collision that took place in the vicinity of Glenrock Drive and Osage Road, in the Radnor Green development. After the collision Evans walked away from the scene and proceeded to cross over a concrete barrier on the Harvey Road overpass and then jumped down onto the I-95 northbound shoulder. Based on witness accounts Evans then stumbled in to the I-95 northbound right lane of travel at which time he was struck by a 2017 Chevrolet Silverado, operated by a 57 year old Ocala, Florida woman.

After being struck Evans was thrown to the roadway coming to rest in the I-95 northbound, right lane. The Chevrolet came to a controlled stop and remained at the scene.

Evans was transported to the Christiana Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. Impairment on Evans behalf is unknown at this time.

The operator or the Chevrolet and her passenger were not

injured as a result of the collision. Neither speed nor impairment are being considered as factors on the operators behalf.

I-95 northbound at Harvey Road was closed for approximately 3 hours as the scene was investigated and cleared.

The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Sgt. D. Alexander of the Troop 2 Collision Reconstruction Unit at 302-365-8484.

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

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. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@delaware.gov.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released: 070218 1100

-End-

New Castle Man Charged with DUI and Weapons Offense after Fleeing Crash Scene

Wilmington – The Delaware State Police have charged Robert A. Powell, 47, of New Castle with multiple criminal and traffic offenses after he fled the scene of a motor vehicle crash, which seriously injured a Newark woman.

The incident occurred at approximately 10:48 p.m., Saturday, June 30, 2018 on I-495 southbound in the area of 12th Street, Wilmington. Powell was driving a 2011 Jaguar XJL, southbound on I-495 in the area of 12th Street when he made a series of unsafe lane changes, with his final change from the center to right lane resulting in his vehicle striking the left side of a 2018 BMW X-1, operated by a 31 year old Newark woman. After striking the BMW, the Jaguar began to spin and traveled into the I-495 southbound center lane at which time it struck the rear end of a 2010 Toyota, being driven by a 30 year old Landsdowne, Pennsylvania man. The Jaguar continued to spin before traveling off the right side of the road at which time it struck a concrete barrier before coming to rest on the right shoulder. Both the BMW and Toyota were brought to controlled stops on the right shoulder after the collisions.

After the Jaguar came to a stop, Powell fled on foot, up a grass embankment towards 12th Street. Responding Troopers were provided a description of Powell and were able to locate him on 12th Street, in the area of the Howard R. Young Correctional Institution, at which time he was taken in to

custody without incident.

During the investigation of the crash scene Troopers located a 9mm handgun in the drivers door compartment of Powell's vehicle along with a fully loaded magazine. The magazine was not inserted in the weapon at the time it was recovered.

A 56 year old female, passenger in the BMW was transported to the Christiana Hospital with serious injuries. The operator of the BMW was not injured.

The operator and two passengers in the Toyota were not injured.

Powell was treated and released from the Wilmington Hospital for undetermined injuries at which time he was transported to Delaware State Police Troop 1, where he was charged with the following offenses:

- Vehicular Assault 3rd Degree
- Possession of a Firearm While Under the Influence
- Driving Under the Influence
- Leaving the Scene of a Personal Injury Accident
- Failure to Report an Accident
- Improper Lane Change
- Inattentive Driving
- Unreasonable Speed

Powell was arraigned in Justice of the Peace Court #11 and released on $4000.00 unsecured bail.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released: 070218 0810

-End-

Troopers Investigating Serious Motor Vehicle Crash I-95 Northbound at Glenrock Drive– Claymont



Claymont **–** The Delaware State Police are investigating a serious motor vehicle crash involving a pedestrian that occurred at approximately 4:26 p.m., Sunday, July 1, 2018 on I-95 northbound in the area of Glenrock Dr., Claymont. As a result, I-95 northbound is closed at Harvey Road.

Motorists are advised to avoid the area and seek alternate routes of travel. For updated road closure information click on the following link:

http://www.deldot.gov/Traffic/travel_advisory/index.shtml#advisories.

The investigation is ongoing with further details being released as they become available.

Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released: 070118 1740

-End-

Traffic Stop Leads to Drug Arrest-Middletown

Middletown – The Delaware State Police have arrested Donte C. Massey, 29, of Dover on drug related charges, after the vehicle that he was a passenger in was stopped for a traffic violation.

The incident occurred at approximately 10:30 p.m., Thursday, June 28, 2018 when Troopers performed a traffic stop on a white Honda Accord, on Middletown-Warwick Road southbound in the area of Main Street, Middletown, after observing that Massey, who was a front seat passenger, was not wearing a seatbelt.

Upon making contact with Massey as he remained seated in the vehicle, Troopers detected a strong odor of marijuana, at

which time he admitted to having a small amount in his pants pocket. During a subsequent search of the vehicle Troopers discovered two large plastic bags containing marijuana that had a total weight of 1.7 lbs. Massey admitted that all the marijuana was his.

Massey was transported to Troop 9 where he was charged with one count each of Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance, Possession of a Controlled Substance in a Tier 1 Quantity, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Massey was then arraigned in Justice of the Peace Court #11, before being committed to the James T. Vaughn Correctional Institution in lieu of $3500.00 secured bail.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin

Released: 063018 0900

-End-