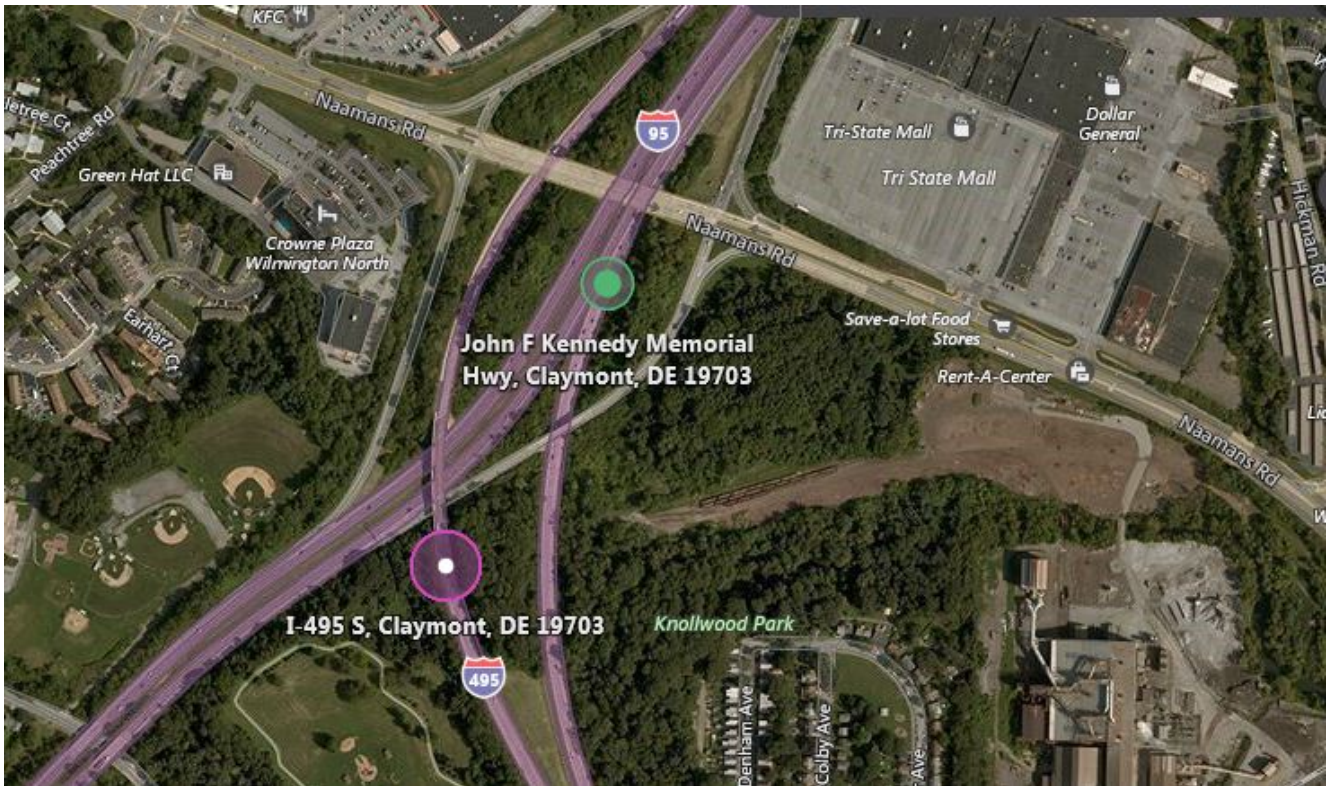


# Update: Troopers Investigate Roll-Over Crash-Claymont



Claymont- The Delaware State Police are investigating a single vehicle roll-over crash in which a Smyrna man was injured today.

The initial investigation has determined the crash occurred at approximately 12:54 p.m. on Sunday, January 28, 2018. The driver, Eric L. Johnson, 33 of Smyrna, was operating a 1996 Jeep Cherokee and was traveling northbound on I-495 in the right lane approaching the merge with I-95 northbound. The driver lost control before spinning out and rolling over. The vehicle then slid several feet before stopping in the right lane and partially on the shoulder.

Eric L. Johnson, who was properly restrained at the time of the crash, was transported by EMS to the Wilmington Emergency Room due to minor injuries. Johnson was cited for Failure to Maintain Speed Appropriate for Conditions.

Traffic on I-495 was not impacted as the crash was investigated and cleared.

[\\*\\*Traffic Advisory\\*\\* State Police Investigating Crash-Claymont](#)

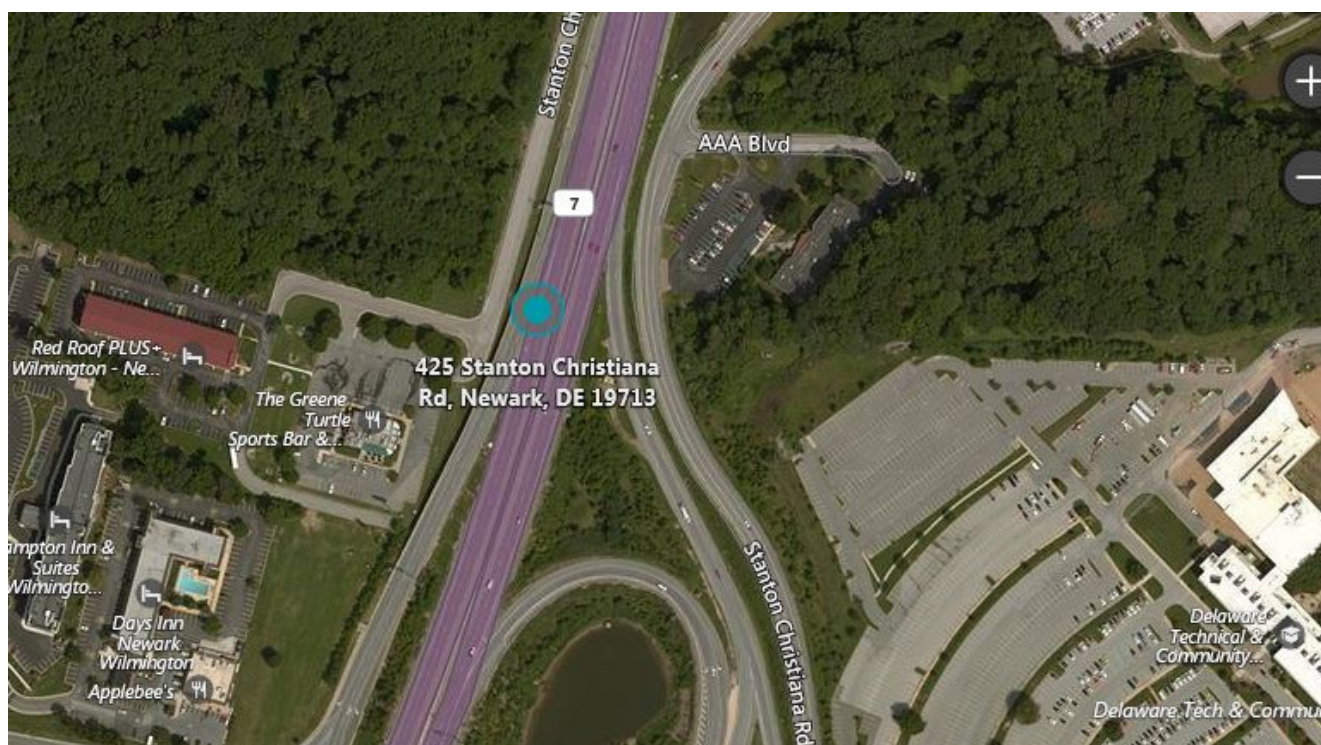
Presented by the Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard Bratz

Released: 012818 1811

-End-

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## Update: State Police Investigating Serious Pedestrian Crash – Newark



Newark– The Delaware State Police are investigating a pedestrian crash that occurred Friday afternoon.

The incident occurred around 3:26 p.m., Friday, January 26, 2018, as a 2006 Peterbilt tractor trailer was traveling southbound in the right lane of (SR7) Stanton Christiana Road just north of Churchmans Road. As the tractor trailer continued to travel south on SR7, suddenly, a pedestrian, ran across the traffic lanes in an eastern direction into the path of the tractor trailer, where he was struck. The truck moved to the left shoulder and came to a controlled stop after the collision.

The 55-year-old male pedestrian from New Castle was treated on the scene by New Castle County Paramedics and transported to Christiana Medical Center where he was admitted in serious condition. He was cited for Crossing at other than Crosswalk/Pedestrian Shall Yield ROW to all vehicles.

The 53-year-old male operator of the Peterbilt tractor trailer, from Milford, was properly restrained and uninjured in the crash.

SR 7 traffic on the southbound lanes were impacted for two hours while the crash was investigated and cleared.

[\\*TRAFFIC ADVISORY-Pedestrian Struck\\* Route 7 at Stanton Christiana Road – Newark](#)

Presented by the Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard Bratz

Released: 012818 1411

-End-

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# **\*\*Traffic Advisory\*\* State Police Investigating Crash-Claymont**



Claymont– The Delaware State Police are currently on the scene of a crash on I495 northbound near Philadelphia Pike.

The incident occurred around 12:54 p.m. today, January 28, 2018 on I495 northbound with a reported single vehicle rollover crash. Injuries are unknown at this time.

I495 northbound is currently shut down. Commuters should expect delays in the area and find alternate routes of travel.

Please follow the Real Time Travel Advisories through DelDOT to get updates on the road opening by click: [http://www.deldot.gov/Traffic/travel\\_advisory/index.shtml#advisories](http://www.deldot.gov/Traffic/travel_advisory/index.shtml#advisories)

Presented by the Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard Bratz

Released: 012818 1331

-End-

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**\*\*Update – Victim's Name  
Released\*\*                      Detectives  
Conducting                      Homicide  
Investigation-Suspect Sought-  
Bridgeville**

Bridgeville – The Delaware State Police are releasing the name of the male subject that died as a result of a shooting northwest of Bridgeville on January 25, 2018 as Tavyon M. Sykes, 18 of Greenwood.

The preliminary investigation has revealed that on Thursday, January 25, 2018, at approximately 1:41 p.m., Troopers were notified that a victim had been dropped off by a private vehicle at the Nanticoke Memorial Hospital, Seaford. Upon arrival to the hospital, Troopers were informed that an 18-year-old male victim of Greenwood had been shot and succumb to his injuries. The shooting was reported to have occurred at the intersection of Newton Road and Adams Road, Bridgeville.

On Friday, January 26, 2018, Detectives obtained an arrest warrant for suspect Jared C. Mitchell, 31 of Greenwood for Murder 1<sup>st</sup> degree, two counts of Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, Reckless Endangering, and two

counts Possession of a Firearm by a Person Prohibited.

[Detectives Conducting Homicide Investigation-Bridgeville](#)

If anyone has any information in reference to this investigation or Mitchell's whereabouts, they are asked to contact the Detective J. King at 302-741-2821. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333, via the internet at [www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com](http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com).

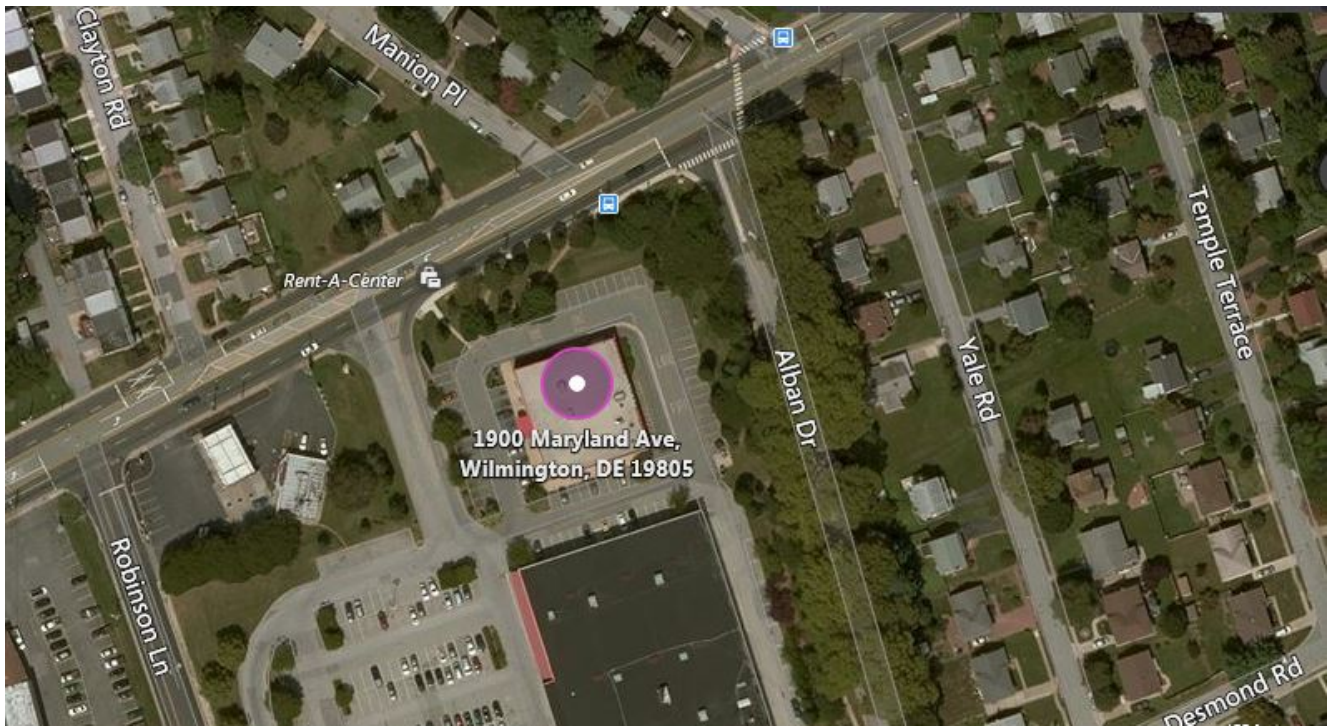
Presented by the Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard Bratz

Released: 012718 0041

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## **Troopers Investigate Strong Arm Robbery-Wilmington**



Wilmington – Delaware State Police are investigating the strong arm robbery of a male which occurred in the parking lot of a local area pharmacy that occurred late yesterday afternoon.

The initial investigation has determined the incident occurred at approximately 3:09 p.m. yesterday, Thursday, January 25, 2018, as a 16 year old male was waiting at the bus stop in front of the Canby Park Shopping Center near the Walgreens when he needed to use the bathroom. The victim went inside the Wilmington Flea Market to use the bathroom. When he came out, the first male suspect came up to him and began walking beside him. This suspect began striking the victim and both went to the ground. As the victim attempted to defend himself he observed a second suspect run off with his cellular phone and get inside a gray colored SUV driven by a third suspect. All three fled the scene in an unknown direction. The victim sustained minor injuries.

The first suspect is described as a white male. The second suspect was only described as a male wearing a dark colored hooded sweatshirt. The third suspect description is an unknown male. No video surveillance photos are available to be released 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](mailto:debra.reed@delaware.gov).

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Presented by the Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard Bratz

Released: 012618 2211

-End-

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# Troopers Arrest Two for Drugs and Stolen Weapon During a Home Visit – Hartly

**Hartly-** Troopers of the Kent County Governors Task Force and Probation Officers from the Dover Probation and Parole Office responded to the 700 block of Fords Corner Road, Hartly regarding a home visit of Curtis J. Kearney, a level three probationer.

During the home visit on Thursday, January 25, 2018, drug paraphernalia was located in plain view, which resulted in the approval of a Probation Administrative Search of the residence. During the administrative search, 18 bags of heroin, 1.5 dosage units of Xanax, additional drug paraphernalia and a 9mm semi-automatic handgun was located, which was reported stolen at Troop 9 in October 2017.

Curtis J. Kearney, 28 of Hartly, was arrested and brought before Justice of the Peace Court 7 where he was formally charged with two counts of Possession, Purchase, Own or Control a Firearm or Ammo by a Person Prohibited Prior Violent Felony, Possession of a Controlled Substance (Heroin), Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, Possession or Control of a Deadly Weapon by Person Prohibited and Conspiracy 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree. In addition, he was issued a Probation Administrative Warrant. He was subsequently committed to the James T. Vaughn Correctional Center in default of \$28,500.00 secured bond.

Elizabeth Challies, 25 of Hartly, was also located at the residence and was also brought before the Justice of the Peace Court 7 where she was formally charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance (Heroin), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Xanax) and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. She was released on an unsecured bond. Mug shot not available.

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*Presented by the Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard Bratz*

Released: 012618 2051

-End-

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**Click on: Delaware State**

# Police Honors Graduates of the Citizen's Police Academy

Newark-The Delaware State Police recognized 33 graduates during a ceremony for the Citizen's Police Academy Class on Tuesday, January 23, 2018. The event was held at the Delaware State Police Troop 2 located at 100 Lagrange Avenue, Newark, DE. 19702

The academy class learned about a wide variety of police activities consistent with what a Delaware Trooper experiences today during the nine consecutive sessions. The instruction phase, which started on November 14, 2017 to January 23, 2018, included criminal and traffic investigations, special units, tours, and various other law enforcement related topics. Additionally, participants had the opportunity to ride with patrol troopers.

During this program the CPA attendees sacrificed their valuable time to learn more about the DSP and its various units. Some of the highlighted presentations and special units who presented consisted of the Honor Guard, Pipes & Drums, DSP History & Overview, DSP Museum, DSP Academy, K-9 Demonstration, Collision Reconstruction Unit, Aviation, Special Operation Response Team, Tactical Control Unit, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Scuba Team, Motorcycle Unit, Delaware Information and Analysis Center, Criminal Investigations, Firearms Training Unit.

A few quotations from our honored academy class:

"We left each presentation having the highest level of confidence in the officer's abilities to perform their duties successfully. We can only imagine Colonel McQueen's pride in leading such an outstanding group of men and women". **Michael Oliver**

“What I take away from this experience is that our police force is just as human as I am: they are our mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, friends and neighbors. They are just human beings trying to do a job. They work hard to protect and serve – even those that do not respect them. It gave me an opportunity to see past the uniform to a human being”. ***Sherry Mouser***

“RISE...Respect, Integration, Service, and Excellence. Expectations for both the police and the community, in order to move forward successfully.” ***Mir Sadiq Ali Khan***

On the final night of the program, the class was recognized by the keynote speaker, Superintendent of the Delaware State Police, Colonel Nathaniel McQueen Jr. and Major Melissa Zebley, Operations Officer for New Castle County. They presented formal certificates of appreciation to the class attendees at the end of the night.

**The Delaware State Police would like to formally thank the citizens who participated in the Fall/Winter Citizen’s Police Academy class.**

“I was impressed with the enthusiasm and commitment that the class members showed. From the time and effort put into the initial application and reasons why they wanted to attend, to their dedication, participation and attentiveness week in and week out. They made my first experience as a facilitator of a Citizens Academy a rewarding one.”

**Master Corporal Michael Austin – Delaware State Police Public Information Officer**

Our next Citizen’s Police Academy will be scheduled in the Spring of 2018 in Kent County. If you are interested in future classes please follow us on [Delaware State Police WordPress](#) , [Delaware State Police Facebook](#) and [Delaware State Police Nextdoor.com](#)

Presented by the Director of Public Information, Sergeant  
Richard Bratz

Released: 012618 1931

-End-

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## **Multi-Agency Crime Blitz Results in Mass Arrests**

***New Castle County and Kent County*** – A multi-agency operation conducted on Thursday, January 25, 2018, at targeted locations in both counties has resulted in the arrest of 44 individuals on criminal charges.

This crime blitz covered several jurisdictions and areas including Middletown, Odessa, Townsend, Smyrna, Southern New Castle County and Northern Kent County. The operation was initiated in these areas to target ongoing criminal activity and to address quality of life issues.

During the eight hour enforcement blitz, police arrested 44 individuals for either a criminal charge or outstanding capiases. The following were seized: four firearms (1 stolen), over 140 grams of Cocaine, 251.88 grams of Marijuana, .602 grams of Heroin, 3.5 Prescription Pills, over \$3,500.00 in United States Currency and 124 ammunition rounds. We made 31 traffic arrests, 33 criminal arrests and 3 civil citations during the crime blitz.

This initiative was a collaborative effort between the Delaware State Police, Probation and Parole, New Castle County

Police Department, Middletown Police Department, Smyrna Police Department, Newport Police Department, Capital Police Department, Department of Corrections and Justice of the Peace Courts.

This combined effort highlights how the cooperation of multiple law enforcement agencies can effectively combat crime which in turn increases the quality of life for the communities we serve.

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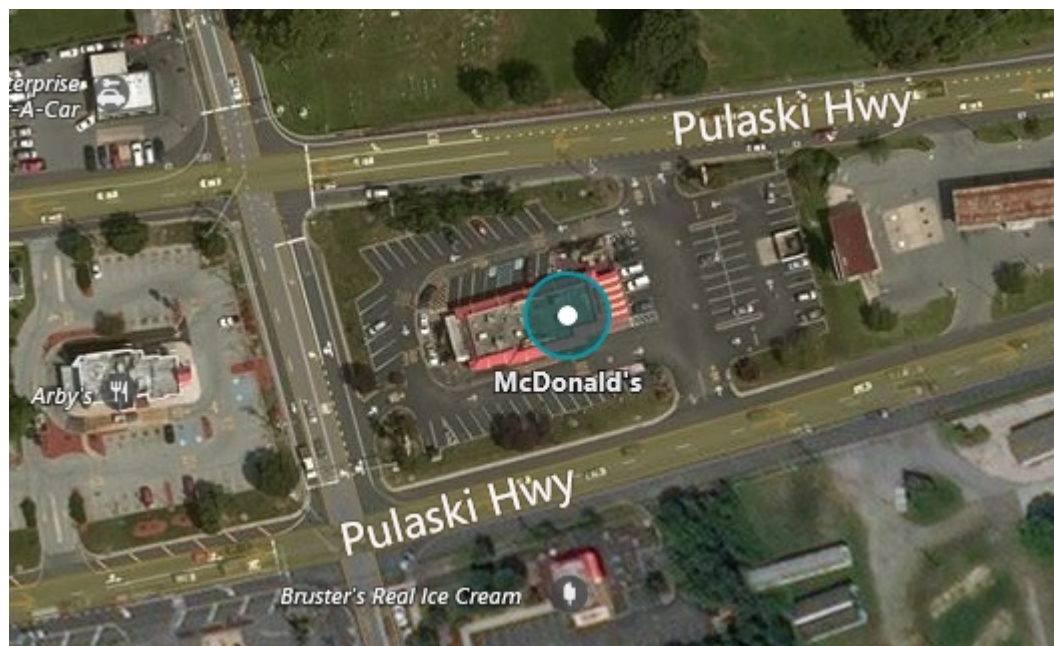
***Presented by the Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard Bratz***

Released: 012618 1751

-End-

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# Troopers Investigating Robbery of Newark McDonalds



**Newark** – Delaware State Police are investigating the robbery of a Newark area McDonalds that occurred last night.

The incident occurred at approximately 8:54 p.m., Thursday, January 26, 2018, at the McDonalds, located at 2351 Glasgow Avenue, Newark. A black male suspect entered the business and remained inside for approximately five minutes before walking behind the counter. A 27 year old female employee became alarmed as the suspect approached, due to him having his hand in his pocket, implying he had a weapon. The employee moved to the rear of the business at which time the suspect accessed the cash register, removing an undisclosed amount of cash. The suspect then exited the business and was last seen walking towards the eastbound lanes of U.S. Rt. 40. The employee was not injured as a result of the incident.

The suspect is described as a black male, 6'00", 220, wearing all dark clothing to include the covering which concealed his face.

No surveillance photos 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](mailto:debra.reed@delaware.gov).

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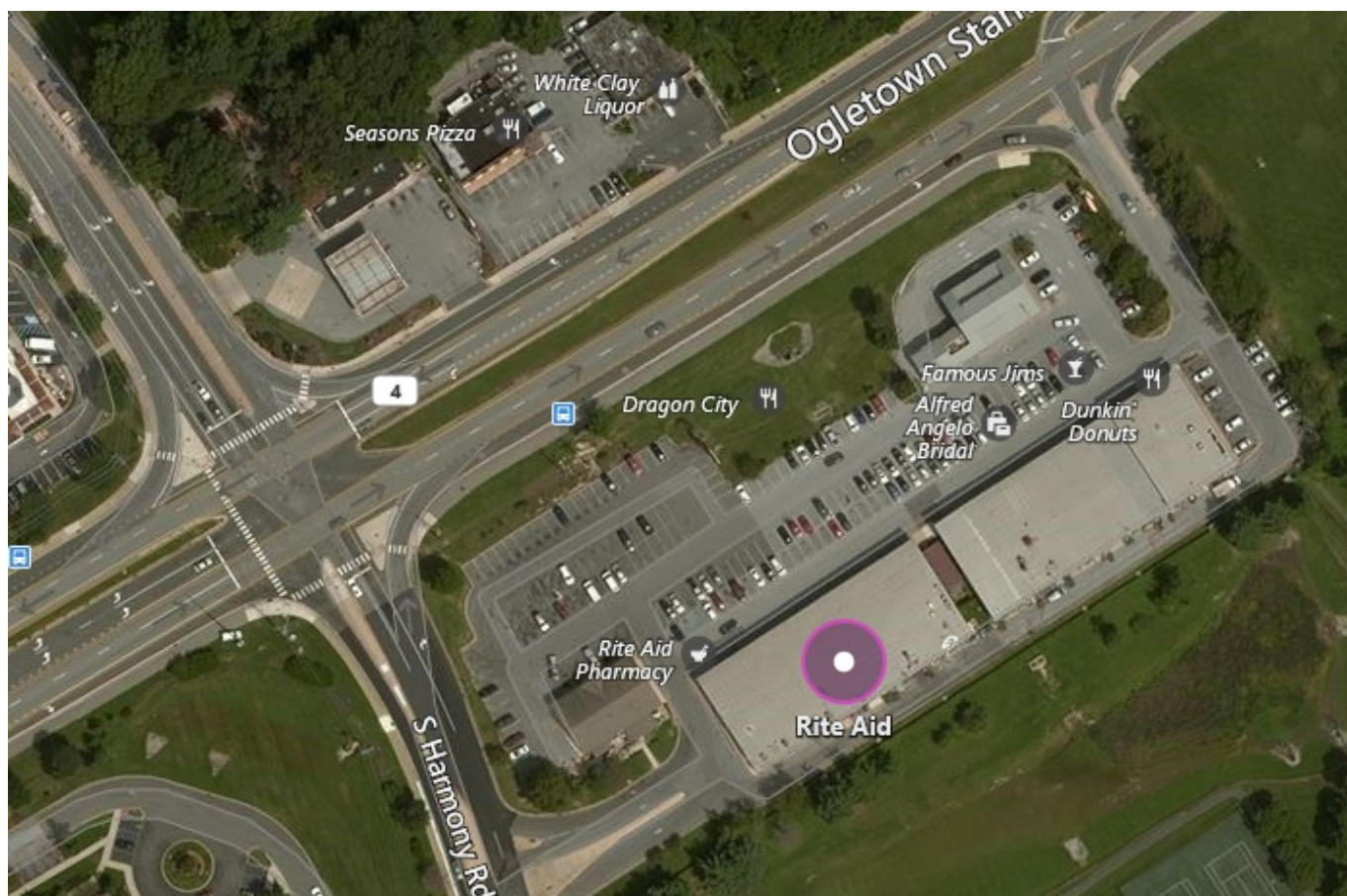
***Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Michael Austin***

Released: 012618 1727

-End-

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# Troopers Investigating Robbery of Newark Pharmacy



**Newark** – Delaware State Police are investigating the robbery of a Newark area pharmacy that occurred yesterday evening.

The incident occurred at approximately 6:01 p.m., Thursday, January 25, 2018, at the Rite Aid pharmacy, located at 4607 Stanton-Ogletown Road, Newark. A white male suspect approached a 29 year old female employee at the sales counter and ordered her to give him all the money from the register. The employee complied with the demand by placing an undisclosed amount of cash in a bag and then turning it over to the suspect. Once obtaining the bag, the suspect exited the store and fled on foot in an unknown direction. The employee was not injured as

a result of the incident.

The suspect, who did not display or imply that he had a weapon was described as a white male, 30-35 years of age, 5'7', average build, wearing all dark clothing to include gloves and a hat.

No surveillance photos 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>

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***Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal***

***Michael Austin***

Released: 012618 1705

-End-