

DECEMBER 2024 Press Release:

12/1- Michele Babich, 53, of Mantua, admitted to officers that she was panhandling in the Brooklawn Shopping Center. She was charged with a borough ordinance violation for begging.

12/3- Officers responded to CSL Plasma for a cellphone theft complaint. During the investigation, they spoke with the defendant, Stephen Dunham, 37, of Atlantic City, who initially provided a false name. After properly identifying Dunham, officers discovered that he was a fugitive from justice. Dunham was arrested, charged with hindering apprehension, and remanded to the Camden County Jail.

12/4- Officers were dispatched to the Wawa for a report of shoplifting. The store manager stated that a black male wearing black jeans, a tan hoodie, and a blue jacket, along with a white female in a black and gold hoodie, black sweatpants, and black flip-flops, entered the store and took several food and drink items valued at \$25. This incident is under investigation.

12/5- Officers were dispatched to the ShopRite parking lot for a report of a male sitting in a vehicle recording people. Upon making contact with Edward Pratt, 57, of Gloucester City, he initially provided a false name. After properly identifying Pratt, it was discovered that he had warrants for his arrest. Pratt was placed under arrest and transported to police headquarters, where he was processed and charged with hindering apprehension. He was subsequently released with new pending court dates.

12/10- Officers responded to the Wawa for a report of shoplifting. The suspect, described as a white male wearing a green jacket, black jeans, and Nike flip-flops, entered the store and stole \$17 worth of food before exiting. After reviewing surveillance footage, the responding officer identified the suspect as Kyle Lafferty, 28, of Williamstown. Lafferty was instructed to turn himself in but failed to comply. As a result, he was charged with shoplifting, and the charge was issued on a summons with a pending court date.

12/11- Officers received a notification from ShopRite's Loss Prevention Officer (LPO) regarding a panhandling complaint. William Cleary Jr., 56, of Gloucester City, was stopped by police and found to have an active warrant. A search incident to arrest revealed Cleary was in possession of drugs, suspected crystal meth, and drug paraphernalia. He was arrested, transported to police headquarters, processed, and released on a summons pending a court appearance.

12/11- Officers were dispatched to Rite Aid for a reported shoplifting incident. A white male wearing a gray hoodie, blue jeans, and a black hat was observed concealing multiple cases of 5-Hour Energy drinks valued at \$222. Through surveillance footage, officers identified a green Mercury registered to the accused, Richard Catalano, 29, of Long Branch. Catalano was charged with fourth-degree shoplifting, and a summons was issued with a pending court date.

12/11- Officers received a notification from ShopRite's Loss Prevention Officer (LPO) regarding a panhandling complaint. John Patyk, 50, of Westville, provided his information to police before fleeing on foot toward the wood line behind ShopRite. Patyk was subsequently charged with obstruction.

12/12- Officers were dispatched to Wawa for a report of a female standing at the entrance asking patrons for money and attempting to sell children's clothing. The individual was identified as Tiffany Stewart, 33, of Camden. Stewart was charged with begging and issued a borough ordinance.

12/12- Officers were dispatched to the Wawa store for a report of shoplifting. A male, approximately in his mid-30s, took several cans of Red Bull from the freezer and exited the store, entering a green four-door sedan with valid New Jersey registration. The stolen items totaled \$102.33.

Through surveillance footage, officers identified the vehicle as a green Mercury registered to Richard Catalano, 29, of Long Branch. Catalano was charged with shoplifting, and a summons was issued with a pending court date.

12/12- The victim reported that while he was inside Rite Aid between 2:00 and 3:00 PM, his unlocked motor vehicle was broken into. He was inside the store for approximately 15 minutes when his wallet and phone were stolen from the vehicle. This incident is under investigation.

12/14- Officers responded to the Wawa for a report of shoplifting involving an unknown male and female. While on the scene, officers were able to obtain a photo of both suspects, who were seen taking items from the store, placing them into bags they brought in, and concealing them under their clothes. The photo of the suspects was uploaded to the department's Facebook page. This incident is under investigation.

12/14- Officers were dispatched to ShopRite for a report of a male and female shoplifting. Upon arrival, officers reviewed surveillance footage and observed the suspects actively concealing unpaid merchandise in reusable shopping bags while in the checkout line. The suspects, later identified as Thomas George, 44, of Gloucester City, and Denise George, 47, of Gloucester City, were then observed walking past the point of sale without paying. The stolen merchandise was valued at \$429.01. Both suspects were placed under arrest and transported to police headquarters, where they were processed and charged. They were released on summonses pending court dates.

12/14- Officers were dispatched to KFC for a report of an erratic driver. Tamera Flynn, 28, of Cherry Hill, was stopped by officers and subsequently failed standardized field sobriety tests (SFSTs). She was placed under arrest, transported to police headquarters, and processed. Flynn was charged with driving while intoxicated (DWI), refusal to consent to breath samples, and issued several motor vehicle summonses. She was released with a pending court date.

12/17- Officers were dispatched to the 100 block of New Broadway for a 911 hang-up call. William Heath, 64, of Glassboro, stated that he needed to urinate but was unable to reach the bathroom, so he went in front of Montero's Pizza. Heath was issued a borough ordinance summons for urinating in public.

12/17- The victim reported that his Uber driver drove off with his \$160 Beats Studio headphones after dropping him off at the Indigo Dispensary. The driver was supposed to wait and drive the victim back home. This incident is under pending investigation.

12/19- Officers responded to the Wawa for a report of shoplifting. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the caller, who described a white female wearing a black jacket and grey pants, along with a black male wearing all green clothes and a black hat with Eagles logos. The suspects entered the store with reusable bags, concealed items in their bags, and clothing, valued at \$25. The suspects' images were later posted on the department's Facebook page. This incident is under pending investigation.

12/22- Officers were dispatched to the Wawa for a report of a black male wearing a black hoodie, black sweatpants with a white stripe, and white slippers, who had shoplifted items totaling \$44.49. The male

then exited the store without paying and entered the front passenger side of an older model white Acura sedan. A photo of the male and the vehicle was taken and posted on the department's Facebook page. This incident is under pending investigation.

12/23- Officers responded to the Wawa for a report that a male exited his vehicle after a road rage incident and punched the caller's driver-side mirror. The male was described as a light-skinned Hispanic/Black male, wearing a green jacket and tan pants. The damage to the mirror was estimated at \$125. This incident is under pending investigation.

12/25- Officers were dispatched to Empire Sports Bar for a report of an unruly patron breaking glasses inside the establishment. Upon arrival, officers encountered Ciera Dobson, 38, of Bellmawr, who refused to cooperate and became disorderly. Dobson was subsequently arrested, transported to police headquarters, and charged with disorderly conduct. She was released pending a court date.

12/26- Officers were dispatched to Rite Aid for a report of shoplifting. A white male, approximately 5'10" tall, wearing a black North Face jacket, camo pants, and a knee brace, concealed approximately \$62 worth of batteries into his jacket pockets. This incident is under investigation.

12/27- Officers were dispatched to ShopRite for a report of a male shoplifter. Upon arrival, the accused, identified as Rogelio Santiago, 29, of Camden, was located inside the Loss Prevention Officer (LPO) office. He was found to have stolen approximately \$75 worth of food items. Santiago was placed under arrest, transported to police headquarters, processed, and charged with shoplifting. He was released with a pending court date.

12/27- Officers responded to the Westbrook Lanes parking lot for a report of an attempted vehicle burglary. The victim stated that around 2200 hours, he noticed his driver's side front window had been smashed. Nothing was reported missing. This incident is under investigation.

12/31- Officers were dispatched to Wawa for a report of a shoplifting. The accused, Ramon Gomez, 33, of Bellmawr, was observed concealing food items. During a search incident to arrest, Gomez was found to be in possession of a vial of suspected heroin. He was placed under arrest, transported to police headquarters, processed, and released with a pending court date.

12/31- Officers were dispatched to Rite Aid for a report of a shoplifting. Jennifer McCloskey, 44, of Westville, was identified as the suspect after concealing \$15 worth of hair coloring products and fleeing the scene in a silver Nissan. McCloskey was subsequently stopped in her vehicle, admitted to the theft, and the stolen merchandise was recovered and returned. She was arrested, processed, and issued a summons for shoplifting with a court date.

12/31- Officers were dispatched to the Red Carpet Inn in response to a report of a male suspect chasing the caller with a knife. Upon arrival, officers located the suspect, identified as Edwin Velez, 45, of Camden, who was detained. A frisk of the suspect's vehicle revealed a large machete knife. Following the investigation, Velez was arrested and charged with aggravated assault, certain persons not to possess weapons, possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose, and unlawful possession of a weapon. Velez was subsequently released with a pending court date.

Warrant Arrests:

Michael Zsira, 53, of Deptford

Brittney Phillips, 31, of Westville

Nicholas Strafella, 45, of Gloucester City

Stephanie McVeigh, 49, of Northfield

Sherrea Alexander, 46, of Camden

Davon Goldsboro, 27, of Camden

Karina Pease, 31, of West Berlin

The Brooklawn Police Department would like to remind the public that all individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The information contained in this press release pertains to general public matters and does not encompass sensitive cases involving domestic violence, sexual crimes, juvenile issues, or other related offenses.

If anyone has any information about the crimes listed above, we ask that you contact the Brooklawn Police Department at 856-456-0750, EXT. 110.

Additionally, please check in on our Facebook page periodically, where we post pictures of individuals and/or vehicles involved in these offenses. We are always seeking the public's help in identifying these individuals.

Tips can also be submitted anonymously by calling 856-456-0750, EXT. 112.