



# Richmond Police Department

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## **POLICE REVIVE MOTORIST WITH NALOXONE**

On Friday, November 4, 2016, at approximately 12:34 PM, the Richmond Police Department received a 9-1-1 call from a motorist reporting a possible impaired operator traveling north on Richmond Townhouse Road (Route 112) near Dover Lane. Officers were dispatched to the area to try and locate the erratic driver. Patrolman Brock Taylor located the vehicle stopped on the shoulder of Richmond Townhouse Road, and was joined by Patrolman Andy Briody moments later. They found the 32-year-old female operator unresponsive and unconscious behind the wheel, along with an adult female passenger, and the driver's 4-year-old daughter in a child's car seat in the backseat.

They assessed the driver who had a pulse but was barely breathing and quickly determined that she was in the midst of an opioid overdose. The police officers called for a rescue, and administered a 2-milligram dose of naloxone to the driver, who had stopped breathing. An off-duty registered nurse, Linda Sloane, of Richmond, noticed what appeared to be a medical emergency on the roadside, and stopped at the scene to assist officers, and administered rescue breaths. The driver resumed respiratory response, and regained consciousness. She was alert and responsive when she was transported to Westerly Hospital by the Hope Valley Ambulance Corps for evaluation.

The adult passenger told officers that the operator struggled to maintain control of the vehicle and suddenly lost consciousness, at which time she (the passenger) had to reach for the steering wheel and apply the emergency brake to bring the car to a stop. Officers subsequently reunited the 4-year-old child with her father.

A tragedy was avoided at this scene because of the actions of several people, including: the alert adult passenger of the vehicle who brought it safely to a stop, the Good Samaritan who called the police department to report the erratic operator, and the quick life-saving actions of Patrolmen Taylor and Briody by administering naloxone which reversed the effects of an opioid overdose, and Linda Sloane who provided timely breath resuscitation. Their combined efforts are truly admirable and led to the preservation of human life.

**END OF PRESS RELEASE**