



# Richmond Police Department

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## **PRESS RELEASE - November 15, 2017**

1. **Misdemeanor - DUI (1<sup>st</sup> offense - BAC unknown):** On Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 5:35 PM, Patrolmen Ryan Donohue and Sergeant Michael Lawing arrested **Dennis Allen**, age 55, of 320 Hillsdale Road, Richmond on charges of (1) **Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and/ or Drugs (1<sup>st</sup> offense - BAC unknown)**, (2) **Operating on a Suspended License (1<sup>st</sup> offense - civil)**, and (3) **Refusal to Submit to a Chemical Test (1<sup>st</sup> offense - civil)**, after officers were dispatched to a 9-1-1 report of a motor vehicle crash at Kingstown Road and Heaton Orchard Road where a vehicle left the roadway and crashed head-on into a tree. The operator and passenger of the vehicle suffered visible non-life threatening injuries. Officers discovered that the driver had a suspended operator's license since March 28, 1987, for *Failure to Complete Alcohol Education*. Based on their observations of the driver at the scene, officers suspected him to be under the influence. He was placed under arrest on suspicion of DUI, and was transported to South County Hospital by Hope Valley Ambulance for his injuries. Once at the hospital, he refused to consent to a blood/chemical test, and was subsequently released with a summons to appear in 4<sup>th</sup> District Court for arraignment on the above charges, and a Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal summons relative to the refusal charge.
2. **Misdemeanor - DUI (1<sup>st</sup> offense - BAC unknown), Driving without a License, & Obstruction:** On Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 2:20 AM, Sergeant William Litterio and Patrolman Adam Andrukiewicz arrested **Mercedes Machado**, age 26, of 37 Mathewson Street, Cranston on charges of (1) **Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and/ or Drugs (1<sup>st</sup> offense - BAC unknown)**, (2) **Driving without a License**, (3) **Obstructing a Police Officer in Execution of his Duty**, and (4) **Refusal to Submit to a Chemical Test (1<sup>st</sup> offense - civil)**, after a motor vehicle stop by Sergeant Litterio on South County Trail. The operator offered an assumed identity of a family member during the stop, which was revealed after she arrested on suspicion of DUI after performing a series of standard field sobriety tests. When her true identity was determined it also revealed that she did not have a license to drive. She was processed at the station and where she subsequently refused to consent to a blood/chemical test. She was subsequently released with a summons to appear in 4<sup>th</sup> District Court for arraignment on the above charges, and a Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal summons relative to the refusal charge.

3. **Misdemeanor - Shoplifting:** On Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7:15 PM, Sergeant Michael Lawing arrested **Noah A. Lionetti**, age 19, of 1 Poplar Avenue, Richmond on a charge of **Shoplifting**, after being dispatched to Cumberland Farms for a report of theft. Investigation revealed that Mr. Lionetti had stuffed eighteen (18) items of merchandise, totaling almost \$49, into his sweatpants before attempting to leave the store without paying. Mr. Lionetti was processed at the station and was released with a summons to appear for arraignment in 4<sup>th</sup> District Court on December 7, 2017.
  
4. **Misdemeanor -Obstructing a Police Officer in Execution of Duty:** On Tuesday November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 5:51 AM, Sergeant William Litterio arrested **Joseph Etheridge**, age 37, of 106 Chauncey Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina on a charge of **Obstructing a Police Officer in Execution of his Duty**, after the officer stopped his unregistered vehicle on Kingstown Road. The operator claimed he did not have a license on his person, and deliberately offered a fictitious name because he was aware of an outstanding arrest warrant in the State of North Carolina. Once his true identity was revealed, he was arrested on the above charge and was processed at the station. Sergeant Litterio confirmed the existence of the arrest warrant in North Carolina, but it was non-extraditable from outside jurisdictions. Mr. Etheridge was transported to 4<sup>th</sup> District Court for arraignment before Judge Isherwood, where he was released on \$1,000 personal recognizance.

**END OF PRESS RELEASE**