

## TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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James Giblin Director

## Official Press Release

On Wednesday October 13, 2021 at approximately 11:18 AM the Washington Township Police Department received several 911 calls regarding a motor vehicle accident in the 500 Block of Van Emburgh Avenue, just South of Immaculate Heart Academy. Sgt. Riedel, Cpl. Cangialosi and S.O. Parisi arrived on scene and determined the vehicle in question struck a curb, a mailbox and caused property damage to several houses. Officers observed several pieces of the vehicle scattered throughout the area as well. The driver reportedly resumed driving southbound on Van Emburgh Avenue, however in the debris Officers located a New Jersey license plate belonging to the damaged vehicle. Dispatch broadcasted to other local towns alerting them of the damage and an attempt to locate the vehicle. The vehicle and driver were located by the Ho Ho Kus Police Department on Route 17 Northbound, where the vehicle was disabled in the right-hand shoulder. Sgt. Riedel and Cpl. Cangialosi responded to the location of the vehicle and driver. Due to the driver appearing to be in a dazed state and having an odor of an alcoholic beverage emanating from the drivers breath, Officers conducted a series of field sobriety tests on the driver. The driver failed the sobriety tests and was placed under arrest for Driving While Intoxicated. The driver was issued the following summonses:

39:4-50 (Driving While Intoxicated)
39:4-96 (Reckless Driving)
39:4-129b (Leaving Scene of an Accident)
39:4-130 (Failure to report an Accident)
39:4-50(G)(1) (Driving While Intoxicated in School Zone)

The driver was released to a responsible party.

The Township of Washington is located in the northern portion of Bergen County, which is in the far northeastern corner of New Jersey, 15 miles northwest of New York City. The Washington Twp. Police Department was established by ordinance in April 1934, and expanded, along with the town, in the 1950's. Presently, the Township of Washington has approximately 10,000 residents who are protected by 20 full-time sworn police officers, under the direction of Police Chief Richard Skinner. Community policing initiatives and educational outreach throughout the community are among the top priorities for the department's organizational focus. Chief Richard Skinner states that the charges are merely an accusation and that the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

**Richard Skinner Chief of Police**