

**Manalapan Twp. Police Dept. Press Releases
July 26 – August 1, 2023**

**Residents are reminded to remove any valuables from unoccupied vehicles and remember to lock your vehicle's doors.
DO NOT LEAVE KEY FOBS IN VEHICLES! **

23MN28371 – Fraud / Theft

On Tuesday, August 1, 2023, at approximately 4:50 p.m., a 65-year-old Manalapan resident responded to Manalapan Township Police Headquarters and reported an unknown actor(s) fraudulently withdrew \$100.00 from a bank account. Patrolman Sean McCarthy handled the report, which is pending further investigation.

23MN28334 – Harassment

On Tuesday, August 1, 2023, at approximately 11:59 a.m., a 40-year-old Manalapan resident reported being harassed via the internet by an unknown actor(s). Patrolman Morgan Joiner handled the report, which is pending further investigation.

23MN28251 – Driving While Intoxicated

On Monday, July 31, 2023 at approximately 6:34 p.m., Patrolman Thomas Butz conducted a motor vehicle stop on Millhurst Road in Manalapan. The driver of the vehicle, identified as Pedro Choc Caal, a 48-year-old, unmarried, male, resident of Lakewood, who is employed as a farmer, was found to be driving while intoxicated. Mr. Choc Caal was placed under arrest and transported to Manalapan Township Police Headquarters where he was processed and released after being issued summonses. Patrolman Thomas Butz was the arresting officer.

23MN28247 – Theft

On Monday, July 31, 2023, at approximately 6:18 p.m., a 67-year-old Manalapan resident responded to Manalapan Township Police Headquarters and reported that an unknown actor(s) unlawfully removed a credit card and \$130.00 in cash from their wallet, while it was secured in a locker at the Jersey Strong Gym, located at 300 Gordons Corner Road in Manalapan. Patrolman Michael DeCristofaro handled the report, which is pending investigation.

23MN28225 – Terroristic Threats

On Monday, July 31, 2023, at approximately 2:57 p.m., a 44-year-old North Plainfield resident reported being threatened via telephone by an unknown actor. Patrolman Edward Burns handled the report, which is pending further investigation.

23MN28132 – Theft of Motor Vehicle / Taking Without Owner's Consent

On Sunday, July 30, 2023, at approximately 5:06 p.m., a 55-year-old Manalapan resident reported that a 50-year-old Manahawkin resident took the victim's vehicle without consent. The vehicle was subsequently recovered by the Stafford Township Police Department. Patrolman Edward Burns handled the report, which is pending further investigation.

23MN28001 – Theft

On Saturday, July 29, 2023, at approximately 4:47 p.m., a 54-year-old Manalapan resident reported that unknown actor(s) unlawfully removed tools, valued at approximately \$1,000.00, from the driveway of a Fawn Run residence. Patrolman Justin Barbuto handled the report, which is pending further investigation.

23MN27997 – Warrant Arrest

On Saturday, July 29, 2023, at approximately 4:13 p.m., Patrolman Christopher Capuzzo conducted a motor vehicle stop on Route 9 for a motor vehicle violation. The driver, identified as Charles D. Bowler, a 40-year-old, unmarried, male resident of East Orange, who is employed as a forklift operator, was found to have a warrant issued for his arrest by the Bordentown Township Municipal Court in the amount of \$550.00. Mr. Bowler was placed under arrest and transported to Manalapan Township Police Headquarters where he was processed and subsequently released, pending a future court date. Patrolman Christopher Capuzzo was the arresting officer.

23MN27968 – Fraud

On Saturday, July 29, 2023, at approximately 11:30 a.m., an employee of Wegmans Supermarket, located at 55 Route 9 in Manalapan, reported an unknown actor(s) purchased items valued at \$110.00 utilizing counterfeit currency. Patrolman Michael DeCristofaro handled the report, which is pending further investigation.

23MN27867 – Warrant Arrest

On Friday, July 28, 2023, at approximately 6:07 p.m., Patrolman Abdoulaye Diagne responded to Shrewsbury Police Department and took custody of Johnathan Mitchell, a 28-year-old, married, unemployed, male resident of Piscataway Township, regarding a warrant that was issued for his arrest by the Manalapan Township Municipal Court in the amount of \$1,000.00. Mr. Mitchell was subsequently transported to Monmouth County Correctional Institution in lieu of bail. Patrolman Abdoulaye Diagne handled the arrest.

23MN27857 – Harassment

On Friday, July 28, 2023, at approximately 3:58 p.m., a 57-year-old Manalapan resident responded to Manalapan Township Police Headquarters and reported being harassed via telephone by an unknown actor(s). Patrolman Edward Burns handled the incident.

23MN27846 – Harassment

On Friday, July 28, 2023, at approximately 12:56 p.m., a 72-year-old Manalapan resident reported being harassed by a 76-year-old Manalapan resident while on Amberly Drive in Manalapan. Patrol Officer Valerie Vacchiano handled the report, which is pending further investigation.

23MN27724 – Theft / Fraud

On Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at approximately 5:04 p.m., a 41-year-old Manalapan resident responded to Manalapan Township Police Headquarters and reported that an unknown actor(s) stole a purse at the Manalapan Township Recreation Center, located on Route 522 in Manalapan, and attempted to make online purchases utilizing the victim's credit card. Patrolman Christopher Capuzzo handled the report, which is pending further investigation.

23MN27664 – Warrant Arrest

On Thursday, July 27, 2023, at approximately 4:15 a.m., Vanessa Banos-Merino, a 24-year-old, unmarried, female resident of Howell Township, who is employed as a medical assistant, was found to have warrants that were issued for her arrest by the Freehold Township Municipal Court in the amount of \$1,000.00 and the Ocean Township Municipal Court in the amount of \$750.00 while at Manalapan Township Police Headquarters. Ms. Banos-Merino was subsequently turned over to the Freehold Township Police Department in lieu of bail. Patrolman James Guarino was the arresting officer.

23MN27662 – Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance / Drug Paraphernalia

On Thursday, July 27, 2023, at approximately 2:04 a.m., Patrolman James Guarino conducted a motor vehicle stop on Route 9 in Manalapan. The driver of the vehicle, identified as Angel Villegas-Hernandez, a 28-year-old, unmarried, male resident of Howell Township, who is employed as a traffic control worker, was found to be in possession of a controlled dangerous substance and drug paraphernalia. Mr. Villegas-Hernandez was placed under arrest and transported to Manalapan Township Police Headquarters, where he was processed and released, pending a future court date. Patrolman James Guarino was the arresting officer.

23MN27604 – Fraud

On Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at approximately 3:51 p.m., a 56-year-old Manalapan resident responded to Manalapan Township Police Headquarters and reported that an unknown actor, purporting to be a Pay Pal representative, defrauded the victim in the amount of \$490.00. Patrolman Thomas Butz handled the report, which is pending further investigation.

23MN27569 – Theft

On Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at approximately 10:11 a.m., a 33-year-old Manalapan resident responded to Manalapan Township Police Headquarters and reported that an unknown actor(s) stole the license plates to a previously owned vehicle. Patrol Officer Valerie Vacchiano handled the report.