



NEWS RELEASE

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police

November 16th, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: Newark Police Arrest Dover Woman for Third Offense DUI and Related Charges after Striking UDPD Officer Directing Traffic

The Newark Police have arrested 29 year old Melinda Dunlap of Dover for DUI and related charges after she struck a UDPD Officer, who was directing traffic. Dunlap continued driving after striking the officer and then ran into the back of a vehicle stopped in traffic.

The incident occurred at approximately 2:26pm on November 15th on East Delaware Avenue, just east of South College Avenue. At that time, Dunlap was travelling eastbound in a 1996 Nissan Maxima, when she approached a pedestrian crosswalk at the UD Green, where a 25 year old University of Delaware Police Officer was standing in the crosswalk directing traffic. The officer, wearing a police uniform and green traffic vest, directed Dunlap to stop her vehicle to allow pedestrians to cross the roadway. Dunlap failed to stop, causing the UDPD Officer to attempt to move out of the path of her approaching vehicle. As Dunlap's vehicle passed, it struck the officer in the right arm. Dunlap failed to stop and continued eastbound. The UDPD Officer chased Dunlap on foot as she continued eastbound. Dunlap then ran into the back of a 1999 Oldsmobile sedan which was stopped for traffic near the rear entrance to the Galleria. The UDPD Officer then took Dunlap into custody.

Newark Police responded to the scene and found Dunlap under the influence of alcohol. Following a DUI investigation, Newark Police charged Dunlap with Third Offense DUI and related charges. Dunlap was arraigned through JP Court #11 and committed to the Delores J. Baylor Women's Correctional Institution in lieu of \$43,206 cash bail.

The UDPD officer sustained a minor injury to his right elbow and was treated on scene by Aetna Ambulance. Dunlap and the 26 year old male driver of the struck Oldsmobile were not injured.

(Continued)

The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Media Contact: Lt. Mark A. Farrall, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 125 or mark.farrall@cj.state.de.us.



PRESS RELEASE, Continued

Defendant: Melinda S. Dunlap (DOB04/24/84)
1093 Walnut Shade Road
Dover, DE 19901

Charges: 1ct 3rd Offense DUI
1ct Assault 2nd
1ct Reckless Endangering
1ct Vehicular Assault 2nd
1 ct Possession of a Deadly Weapon During the Commission of a Felony
1ct Resisting Arrest, Fleeing From a Police Officer
1ct Disregard a Police Officers Signal
1ct Leaving Scene of an Injury Collision
1ct Driving While Suspended or Revoked
1ct Reckless Driving
1ct Open Container of Alcohol
1ct Failure to Have Required Insurance
1ct Failure to Obey Authorized Person Directing Traffic
1ct Failure to Have Registration Card in Possession
1ct Inattentive Driving
1ct Failure to Remain Within a Lane
1ct Following Too Closely

Anyone with additional information about this incident should contact Officer William Anderson at 302-366-7110 ext. 469 or william.anderson@cj.state.de.us. You can send an anonymous text message tip by texting 302NPD and your message to TIP411. Information can also be provided anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at www.tipsubmit.com where a reward may be available.

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