

NEWS

TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE



MAYOR JOHN E. McCORMAC

1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095

Phone: (732) 634-4500 ♦ Fax: (732) 602-6016

Web: <http://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us>

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

John R. Hagerty

Mayor's Office of Communications

732-602-6039

WOODBIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT CHARGE TWO SUSPECTS WITH COMMITTING NINE BURGLARIES IN PORT READING AREA

Quick Response by WPD leads to Arrest of Transient Defendants...

Woodbridge Twsp. – The Woodbridge Township Police Department (WPD) today announced the arrest of two transient individuals on charges related to the burglary or break-in of nine businesses and properties in the Port Reading area of Woodbridge Township since last May. The charges were filed by the Woodbridge PD Detective Bureau after undercover police officers encountered a suspicious person matching the description of a suspect wanted in the burglary of a Dunkin Donuts on Thurs., Aug. 30.

According to Chief William Trenergy, Woodbridge Township Police Department, James Lorenz, 46, no known address and Ronald Penna, 49, no known address, were charged with nine counts of burglary and theft. Lorenz was located under a bridge on Port Reading Avenue; Penna was arrested while walking on “B” Street in Port Reading. Both individuals remain in the Middlesex County Jail pending bail.

The ongoing Port Reading burglary investigation got underway last May with the burglary of the Delta gas station. Subsequent burglaries and/or break-in’s occurred at the Delta gas station in early June, Dunkin Donuts, 301 Port Reading Ave. on June 9 and Aug. 30; a break-in of the Bowtie swimming pool on June 10; break-in of the Port Reading soccer team trailer on June 11; the burglary of the Rameriz gas station on June 15-16; and the burglary of the Home Town Deli, 177 Port Reading Ave., on July 29 and Aug. 31.

The investigation determined that on Fri., Aug. 31 at approximately 2:24 a.m., Police Officer Jason Szylar and Police Officer Bryan Jaremliar encountered Penna while walking on “B” Street in the vicinity of the Dunkin Donuts and Home Town Deli in Port Reading. It is alleged that Penna fit the description of a suspect wanted in the earlier burglary of the Dunkin Donuts and Home Town Deli. Subsequent investigation led to the area of the Port Avenue bridge where suspect Lorenz was located. It is alleged that Lorenz was in possession of denim cut-off short pants and a green T-shirt with a large ribbon design on the back – clothing worn by the suspect in the burglary of the Dunkin Donuts on Thurs., Aug. 30. The investigation remains ongoing and will be submitted to the Middlesex County Prosecutor’s Office for prosecution.

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