

TO: ALL NEWS MEDIA FROM: Lt. Joseph Soto DATE: March 11, 2024 CONTACT: Lt. Joseph Soto

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## For Immediate Release:

On January 24, the Marshalls store in Boulder Run reported shoplifting in progress. Manuel Melladorenas, Paterson NJ, age 31, was observed in the store concealing merchandise. He was placed under arrest by Det. Sgt. Michael Ragucci and transported into headquarters. He was charged with shoplifting, trespassing, hindering by providing a fictitious name, and possession of a device to defeat anti-shoplifting tags. He was released from custody pending a court date.

On February 16, a local business reported the theft of cash from the register by an employee. While investigating the theft, officers discovered that the employee had an active arrest warrant from Fairfax County, Virginia. Tyron Al Jamier Compton, Paterson NJ, age 24, was taken into custody. He was charged with one count of theft for stealing \$111.00 from the store's register. After processing, he was transported to the Bergen County Jail awaiting extradition to Virginia.

On March 7, Saddle Brook Police reported that they had a subject in custody who had an outstanding Wyckoff warrant. Lawrence Brock, Wayne NJ, age 46, was charged with shoplifting from Stop & Shop on December 23, 2023. He was identified after an investigation by Det. Sgt. Ragucci, who issued the warrant for his arrest. Brock was picked up at Saddle Brook Police, processed and sent to the Bergen County Jail.

On March 7, at approximately 7:44 PM, a resident of Concord Place reported that she heard a rear screen door open and observed someone at the door with their hand on the knob, attempting to gain entry. She stated that the unknown person observed her in the house and ran off. A search for the suspect(s) was conducted by Wyckoff officers, assisted by officers from Midland Park, Franklin Lakes, Hawthorne, and the Bergen County Sheriff's Office. The detective bureau is investigating.

The Wyckoff Police Department would like to point out that the above individuals have been charged with a crime, offense, and or motor vehicle violations. However, they are presumed innocent unless and until they are found guilty in a court of law.

We cannot stress enough the value of our residents remaining alert in their neighborhoods and reporting anything unusual or suspicious to the police, "Hear It! See It!, Report It!"

We encourage all residents to report ANY suspicious persons, vehicles, or activity occurring at any time to the Wyckoff Police – County Communications Center at 201-891-2121 or 911 in the event of an emergency.