



POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEW PROVIDENCE, NEW JERSEY



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New Providence Police Department Press Release Motor Vehicle Crash with Arrests

February 28, 2025

On February 27, 2025 at approximately 5:02 pm, officers attempted to stop a white Ford Fusion on Maple Street, after the vehicle was observed driving in a careless manner and a check of the license plate revealed it was not on file. The vehicle stopped for a moment, after officers activated their emergency lights, and then proceeded to flee from the location of the motor vehicle stop. The suspect vehicle continued north on Maple Street where it struck another motorist at the intersection of Springfield Avenue. The vehicle then continued west on Springfield Avenue where it attempted to turn north onto Clinton Avenue. The vehicles operator drove over the lawn of a resident and sideswiped a tree, ultimately crashing into a fence. The driver who was later identified as Endy Cruz, age 20 of Linden, immediately fled the scene. The passengers, Aziah Brown, age 18 of Newark; Farad Wright, age 19 of Cranford; and Rukiyah Washington, age 20 of Newark, were detained by officers at the scene. Officers created a perimeter and with the assistance of numerous police agencies including Millburn PD, Summit PD, Berkeley Heights PD, NJ State Police, and Union County Sheriff's K9 Unit, the driver was apprehended a short time after the crash.

As the investigation was conducted, it was determined that Endy Cruz was under the influence of an intoxicating substance and the vehicle had a stolen license plate attached to it and contained several controlled dangerous substances. Mr. Cruz was charged with driving while intoxicated, hindering apprehension through flight, aggravated assault for the crash into the other motorist, receiving stolen property and numerous motor vehicle violations. Mr. Cruz was released pending a Union County Superior Court date. The three additional passengers were charged with consumption of CDS in a motor vehicle and open container of CDS in a motor vehicle. Ms. Brown and Mr. Wright were released pending a Municipal Court date. Ms. Washington was found to have an outstanding arrest warrant out of East Orange and was transported and turned over to East Orange PD. The driver of the vehicle involved in the crash was transported to Overlook Hospital with minor injuries.