



City of Middletown Connecticut Middletown Police Department



Mayor Benjamin Florsheim

*Chief of Police
Erik M. Costa*

*Deputy Chief of Police
Richard Davis*

PRESS RELEASE – FENTANYL ARREST

On Saturday February 12, 2022 at approximately 0217 hours a Middletown Police Officer attempted to stop a 2021 Ford Escape bearing Massachusetts registration 2BW63 on Route 9 Northbound after the operator failed to stop for the control signal on Hartford Ave and Route 9. Officers had their lights and sirens activated but the operator initially failed to stop the vehicle. After a brief pursuit, the operator stopped on Route 9 North. As the officer approached the vehicle, he observed (2) large plastic bags containing a green leafy substance consistent with marijuana.

The operator, who was later identified as 32-year-old Christopher Little, was argumentative and refused to provide his license, registration, and proof of insurance. Little was instructed to exit his vehicle but again refused to cooperate. Officers opened the driver's side door and Little exited without further incident. Based on the quantity of suspected marijuana in the vehicle, Little was handcuffed and searched for additional contraband. Officers located (5) unmarked pills in a plastic bag which they suspected to be counterfeit ecstasy and a Hertz Rental agreement which listed Little as the authorized driver of the Ford.

Little was found to have a suspended driver's license and an active PRAWN re-arrest warrant from a case in Hartford. He was arrested and transported to the Middletown Police Department. Little remained uncooperative during booking but told officers the suspected marijuana and ecstasy were actually Cannabidiol (CBD).

The arresting officer field tested the green leafy substance and obtained a negative reaction for the presence of THC. He then tested the green leafy substance using a NARK 5 Testing kit and obtained a POSITIVE reaction for the presence of fentanyl. Officers also field tested the suspected ecstasy using a NARK 5 Testing kit and obtained a POSITIVE reaction for the presence of fentanyl. It is common for individuals who sell narcotics to lace substances with fentanyl to falsely market his/her product and increase profit margin.

The (2) bags of the green leafy substance laced with fentanyl had a combined weight of approximately 2 pounds and 8 ounces. The street value of the product, if sold by the gram, was estimated to be approximately \$22,640. The (5) pills laced with fentanyl had an estimated street value of \$100 if sold per pill. Little was also found to be in possession of \$926 in US Currency. Based on the officer's training and experience, it was determined that the quantity of illicit drugs was far greater than

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personal use and indicative of sales. The US Currency was determined to be ill-gotten gains of drug sales and therefore seized for Asset Forfeiture.

Based on the officer's investigation, Christopher Little was charged with the following:

- Failure to Obey Traffic Control Signal
- Disobeying Signal of an Officer
- Engaging Police in a Pursuit
- Operating a Motor Vehicle with Suspended License
- Interfering with an Officer
- Possession of Narcotics with Intent to Sell (2 Counts)
- Possession of a Controlled Substance (2 Counts)

Little was released from Police custody after posting a \$100,000.00 bond and he is scheduled to appear in Middletown Superior Court on February 24, 2022.



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