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Town of Barnstable Police Department

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Barnstable Police Department Press Release
October 4th, 2013

Busy Shift for SCU Arrests Leads to Four Arrests Including a 4th Offense OUI

On October 3rd, Barnstable Street Crime Unit (SCU) members had a busy shift which resulted in four (4) separate arrests for narcotics, warrants, a 4th offense OUI/alcohol, and B&E into motor vehicles. At approximately 1:42pm, SCU members Mass State Police Sgt Steve Lopes and Yarmouth Officer Nicholas Ambrosini were on patrol in the area of the Cape Cod Mall, Hyannis. They observed a subject walking in the CCM parking lot speaking on his cellular phone. He was later identified as John M Benevides, age 30, of Yarmouth. BENEVIDES was walking between parked motor vehicles and acting suspicious. LOPES and AMBROSINI stopped BENEVIDES to speak with him. He was found in possession of a knife. Additional follow up revealed he had a prescription bottle on his person in the name of another individual. The prescription bottle contained two (2) small bags of heroin and two (2) oxycontin pills. BENEVIDES has a long criminal history of property related crimes related crimes. He is currently on probation in Barnstable Superior Court for B&E daytime with intent to commit a felony. He was placed under arrest and charged with possession of class A/heroin and possession of class B/oxycontin.

At approximately 3:09pm, SCU members Mashpee Officer Michael Assad and Deputy Kim Saladino stopped a motor vehicle for a minor traffic violation. The operator, later identified as Michael Silva, age 29, of New Bedford, initially gave them a false name. Additional follow up at the motor vehicle stopped revealed SILVA's true name. He had twelve (12) separate outstanding arrest warrants for offenses relating to shoplifting, larceny, A&B, and identity fraud. He was placed under arrest. All the warrants are from Southeastern, Massachusetts

At approximately 6:43pm, SCU members Barnstable Officer Scott Wright and Barnstable Deputy Michael Huse were on patrol in the area of the Rte 28 Hyannis/Yarmouth town line. They observed a motor scooter traveling east bound on Rte 28 near Cedar Street. The scooter was operating in an erratic manner. WRIGHT and HUSE activated their blue lights in an attempt to signal the operator to stop. The operator, later identified as Matthew Sylvia,



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age 47, of Hyannis, failed to stop. He continued to travel on Rte 28 before turning onto Main Street and then Bay View Street. SYLVIA continued to operate the scooter in a reckless manner with no regard for his safety and/or the safety of the general public. SYLVIA drove past the Cape Cod Hospital on Bay View Street before turning on Rosetta Lane in Yarmouth. Rosetta Lane is a dead end. SYLVIA could not drive any further and jumped off the motor scooter attempting to flee on foot. He ignored verbal commands he was under arrest, resisted arrest, and became combative. He assaulted both WRIGHT and HUSE during the physical struggle. He was eventually secured with handcuffs. He was transported to Barnstable Police Department and booked. SYLVIA appeared to be under the influence of alcohol. Due to a minor injury sustained during his arrest and a previous medical condition, SYLVIA was transported to Cape Cod Hospital. He was eventually released on bail from the Cape Cod ER for his court appearance. SYLVIA was charged with OUI/alcohol-4th offense, operating to endanger, operating with a revoked license, failure to stop for police officer, A&B on a police officer-2counts, and resisting arrest. SYLVIA is very well known to Cape Cod law enforcement. He has three (3) previous OUI/alcohol convictions. He has over one hundred (100) arraignments on his adult criminal history including a conviction for A&B on a police officer in which he received a 59 day jail term.

At 7:19pm, LOPES and AMBROSINI were in the area of the Mini-Food Mart, 252 Main Street, Hyannis. They were flagged down by a citizen who was standing with a second individual. The 2nd individual was later identified as John A Silvia, age 25, of West Yarmouth. The citizen told LOPES and AMBROSINI he observed SILVIA breaking into two (2) motor vehicles in the Mini-Food Mart parking lot. SILVIA had in his possession a women's black purse and a Bed Bath & Beyond shopping bag. The bag contained a Cannon camera. The owners of the vehicles in question were located and identified. The property recovered from SILVIA was identified as belonging to one of the vehicle owners. SILVIA also had a "spring loaded" knife on his person. He was placed under arrest and charged with B&E motor vehicle night time-2 counts, larceny over \$250, and possession of a dangerous weapon/spring loaded knife. He was transported to Barnstable PD, booked, and held on bail until his arraignment in Barnstable District Court on October 4th.

All the above were arraigned in Barnstable District Court on Friday, October 4rd, 2013. A copy of the arrest photographs are attached to this release. Any additional questions and/or comments please contact Lt John F Murphy at murphyj@barnstablepolice.com



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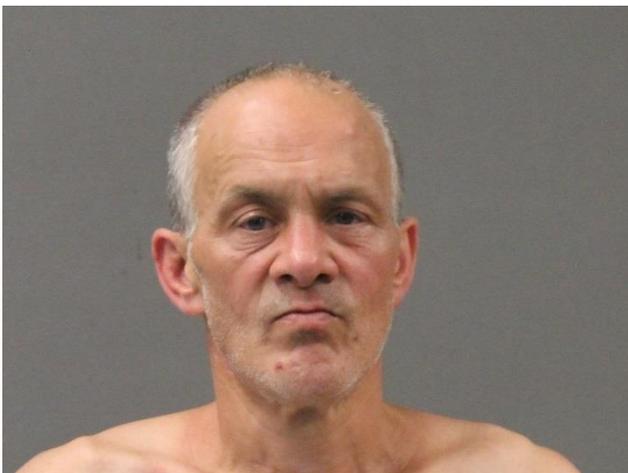
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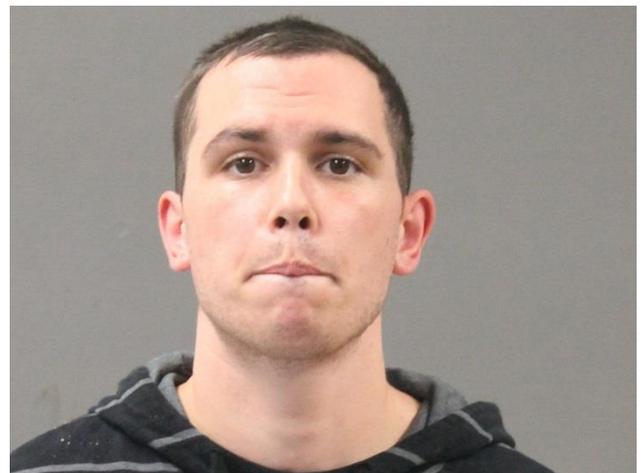
BENEVIDES, JOHN



SILVA, MICHAEL



SYLVIA, MATTHEW



SILVIA, JOHN