



# WESTFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT



## Honor, Integrity, Pride.

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### WESTFIELD POLICE CHIEF ANNOUNCES ARRESTS OF FOUR (4) PERSONS FOLLOWING PARK STREET HOME INVASION

**WESTFIELD – SEPTEMBER 22, 2020** – Westfield Police Chief Christopher Battiloro has announced the arrest of four (4) persons on an array of criminal charges relating to a reported home invasion and assault, which occurred early this morning on the 100 block of Park Street.

The Westfield Police Department received numerous 9-1-1 calls reporting the incident at approximately 0355 hours. Officer Nicholas Bagan subsequently located the following persons attempting to flee the scene on foot towards a nearby parked vehicle: Patrick Ely, age 27, of Bridgewater; Vince John, age 23 of Piscataway; Justin Mitchell, age 21, of Piscataway; and a male juvenile, age 12, of Piscataway.

All persons were detained by Officer Bagan, and subsequently taken into custody with the assistance of Officers Michael DiBella, Eric Popleik, Christopher Santangelo and Ryan Shaughnessy.

The arrested persons reportedly forced entry into the Park Street residence and then assaulted an adult male and adult female resident with a baseball bat. Both sustained resulting injuries. The adult male resident required transport to and treatment at a local hospital.

Pursuant to an investigation conducted by the Westfield Police Department's Detective Bureau, each of the four (4) arrested persons have been charged with the following:

- Conspiracy to Commit Burglary (a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree crime);
- Conspiracy to Commit Aggravated Assault – 2 counts (a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree crime);
- Burglary (a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree crime);
- Aggravated Assault (a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree crime);
- Aggravated Assault (a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree crime);
- Possession of a Weapon for an Unlawful Purpose (a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree crime);
- Unlawful Possession of a Weapon (a 4<sup>th</sup> degree crime).

Additionally, Ely, John and Mitchell have also been charged with Use of a 17 Year Old or Younger to Commit a Criminal Offense (a 1<sup>st</sup> degree crime). All of the criminal charges were approved by the Union County Prosecutor's Office.

“Our officers were on the scene within two (2) minutes of their dispatch,” stated Chief Battiloro, who praised them for being “at the top of their game” so late in their daily tour of duty. “This was a dangerous call for service, and our residents should be extremely proud of these officers and the way



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they performed,” he added.

Following arrest processing at the Westfield Police Department, Ely, John and Mitchell will all be remanded to the Union County Jail in Elizabeth pending a detention hearing. The disposition of the male juvenile is pending at this time.

The Westfield Police Department was assisted at the scene by the Union County Sheriff’s Office K-9 and Crime Scene Units.

“This does not appear to be a random act. I am satisfied that all suspects have been located, are presently in custody, and that there is no on-going threat to the public,” stated Chief Battiloro. However, anyone with any information relating to this incident is asked to contact Detective Donald Domanoski of the Westfield Police Department at 908-789-6077.



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