



Township of Monroe

County of Middlesex

Griffin Banos
Acting Chief of Police

Department of Police:
Municipal Complex
3 Municipal Plaza
Monroe Township, NJ 08831

On the morning of December 8th, 2023, The Monroe Township Police Communications Center as well as on duty patrol units received an alert from one of our Flock Safety stationary license plate readers that a stolen vehicle had entered the township. Officers Nicholas Lafata and Robert Seiden were able to locate the suspect vehicle and attempted to stop it, however the driver of the suspect vehicle began eluding officers. In accordance with New Jersey Attorney General Guidelines, a vehicle pursuit was authorized. The officers maintained contact with the suspect vehicle as the vehicle entered both Manalapan and Englishtown. The driver of the suspect vehicle abandoned the vehicle in Englishtown, where the officers continued to pursue the suspect on foot. Officers from The Englishtown Police Department assisted in setting up a perimeter to contain the suspect, while a K9 unit from The Middlesex County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to assist.

The suspect emerged from where he was hiding and after another brief foot pursuit, the suspect was apprehended without incident. It was learned that the vehicle was stolen out of Old Bridge Township earlier the same day. Detectives from The Old Bridge Township Police Department responded to the scene to assist.

Since the implementation of the Flock Safety stationary license plate reader system in September of 2023, alerts received from the devices directly lead to the arrest of five separate criminal suspects. Additionally, alerts received from the Flock Safety stationary license plate reader system continue to assist detectives in several other ongoing criminal investigations. Patrol officers were able to utilize the alerts received from the system to deter several suspect vehicles that had entered the township. As a result, Mayor Dalina has implemented a plan to double the amount of Flock Safety stationary license plate readers throughout the township in his continued efforts to combat crime and provide The Monroe Township Police Department with the tools they need to maintain the highest level of service to the citizens of Monroe Township.

All suspects should be considered innocent until proven guilty in court.

Acting Chief Griffin Banos