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Traffic stop results in the arrest of a Drunk Driver

Township of Washington Police Chief Randy Ciocco wishes to announce the arrest of a 33-year-old Fairlawn man for DWI on Saturday, February 4, 2012. This arrest stemmed from a traffic stop conducted by Corporal Thomas Lawton.

While on motor patrol on Saturday, February 4, 2012 at approximately 1:50 a.m., Corporal Thomas Lawton was on a stationary radar detail along Washington Ave. Cpl Lawton observed a vehicle heading eastbound on Washington Ave at a high rate of speed. As such, Cpl Lawton effected a traffic stop and interviewed the 33-year-old driver from Fairlawn.

Upon further investigation, Cpl Lawton detected a strong odor of alcoholic beverage emanating from the 33-year-old's breath. Subsequently the driver was given a battery of standard field sobriety tests. Accordingly, the driver was taken into custody with the assistance of Police Officer Christopher Reilly without incident and transported Police Headquarters for arrest processing.

At Police Headquarters, he was processed and sample of his breath was taken. The male was released on his recognizance, pending a future court appearance. He was cited for Driving While Intoxicated and speeding.

Chief Ciocco states that defendants in every case are innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. Furthermore, Chief Ciocco recognized Officer Reilly for his diligence while on patrol. Protecting our roadways and neighborhoods is a priority for our Police Department.

The Township of Washington is located in the northern portion of Bergen County, which is in the far northeastern corner of New Jersey, 15 miles northwest of New York City. The Washington Twp. Police Department was established by ordinance in April 1934, and expanded, along with the town, in the 1950's. Presently, the Township of Washington has approximately 10,000 residents who are protected by 21 full-time sworn police officers, under the direction of Police Chief Randy Ciocco. Community policing initiatives and educational outreach throughout the community are among the top priorities for the department's organizational focus.

