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Fire and Assault at the Township Shopping Center

Township of Washington Police Chief Randy Ciocco wishes to announce an arrest and fire that took place at the Washington Township Town Center on January 4, 2012 which involved assets from Township of Washington Fire Department, The Paramus Fire Department, Hillsdale Fire Department, River Vale Ambulance Corp, Westwood Police Department and Hillsdale Police Department.

On January 4, 2012, at approximately 10:30 a.m. Police Headquarters received a 9-1-1 call from the Township Library reporting a fire on the roof of the Township Shopping Center. Lt Gregg Hackbarth and Cpl Arsenio Pecora were dispatched along with the Township of Washington Fire Department. Upon arrival Patrol confirmed a working fire at the Wing Lee Restaurant. The Washington Town Center was evacuated by patrol. The Fire Departments extinguished the Fire which originated in the kitchen of Wing Lee Restaurant and extended through the roof.

During the fire a 9-1-1 call was made to Township Pd Headquarters reporting a fight in progress in the rear of the shopping center. Hillsdale Officer Sean Smith, who was assisting with the fire scene, took all parties into custody and complaints are pending.

Police Chief Randy Ciocco would like to point out the hard work and rapid response of the Township Fire Department and Township Police Department in this instance and in so many other incidents. Through fluid communication, cooperation, and common goals shared between the Township of Washington Police and Fire Department, emergencies such as this one are quickly tackled through a professional and diligent response.

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.

