



NEWS RELEASE

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police

January 30th, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: Wilmington Man Arrested for Attempted Murder and Rape of 17 Year Old

On January 29th, 2012 the Newark Police Department arrested 20 year old John A. Nelson of Wilmington for the Attempted Murder and Rape of a 17 year old female, also from Wilmington, while attending a party in unit block of Academy Street.

On this date at approximately 1am officers responded to a large party at a residence across from the Aetna Fire Station and began to clear a large crowd leaving the party. Upon doing so, officers heard screams for help at the rear of the residence and located the 17 year old female lying on the ground below a 2nd floor window, being aided by several individuals.

Investigators learned that the victim had been alone in a locked second floor bedroom of the home when Nelson, who is an acquaintance of the victim, kicked in the door. The victim attempted to flee, however, Nelson prevented her from doing so. During the struggle, Nelson grabbed the victim by the throat and strangled her to the point of unconsciousness. Nelson then sexually assaulted the victim and following the assault threw her from the bedroom window.

The victim was transported to Christiana Hospital where she underwent surgery for her injuries from the fall including a broken arm and punctured lung. She is currently admitted at Christiana Hospital.

Nelson was identified by the victim and officers were able to locate him at his residence in Wilmington. He was taken into custody without incident.

(Continued)

The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Media Contact: Lt. Mark A. Farrall, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 125 or mark.farrall@cj.state.de.us.



PRESS RELEASE, Continued

Defendant: John A. Nelson DOB 12/28/1991
1238 Sycamore Avenue
Wilmington, DE 19805

Charges: Attempted Murder 1st Degree
Rape 1st Degree
Kidnapping 1st Degree
Burglary 1st Degree
Strangulation
Assault 3rd
Criminal Mischief

Nelson was committed to Howard R. Young Correctional in lieu of \$286,600 secured bail.

Anyone with additional information about this incident is asked to contact Detective Nicholas Sansone at 302-366-7110 ext. 135 or nick.sansone@cj.state.de.us. You can send an anonymous text message tip by texting 302NPD and your message to TIP411. Information can also be provided anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at www.tipsubmit.com where a reward may be available.

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