



NEWS RELEASE

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police

February 28, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: Bear Man Arrested for Possession of Stolen Firearm

Newark Police have arrested 48 year old John H. Brierley, Jr of Bear, DE for possession of a stolen firearm and related offenses after he was found in possession of a firearm reported missing from the Newark Police Department in 1987.

On January 17th, 2012 Brierley was contacted by the Delaware State Police during a traffic stop. During that stop, a Trooper located a .22 cal revolver in the vehicle. A computer check of the serial number revealed that it was reported stolen by the Newark Police Department in 1987.

Delaware State Police notified Newark Police of the incident and the weapon recovery. The investigation and firearm were turned over to Newark PD. An NPD investigation revealed that in 1987, following an internal audit of the NPD evidence storage facility, the gun was found to be missing. It was entered into the National Crime Computer as a stolen firearm.

Following a lengthy investigation, Newark Police arrested Brierley on February 27th, 2013 and charged him with the following criminal offenses:

Defendant: John H. Brierley, Jr (DOB: 12/24/1964)
2584 Red Lion Road
Bear, DE 19701

Charges: 1ct. Receiving a Stolen Firearm
1ct. Carrying a Concealed Deadly Weapon
1 ct. Possession of a Firearm by a Person Prohibited

Brierley was arraigned through JP Court and released on \$15,000 unsecured bond.

Anyone with additional information on this incident should contact Lieutenant George Stanko of the Criminal Division at 302-366-7110 ext. 141 or george.stanko@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.

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.

