

Onondaga County Sheriff's Office News

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Sheriff



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Deputies Discover Handgun during Traffic Stop

Syracuse, New York- The Onondaga County Sheriff's Office reports that two people were arrested after deputies discover a handgun in their vehicle during a traffic stop.

Last night at approximately 10:00 pm, deputy's Bryan Hart and Mark Grady were patrolling in the area of South Alvord Street near the intersection of East Laurel Ave when they observed a black Ford Fusion make an improper turn onto East Laurel Ave.

Deputies conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle, which was occupied by two people. The driver of the vehicle was identified as John DeJesus (24) of 512 Lemoyne Ave. and the front seat passenger was identified as Kendell Sparks (34) of 214 Wall Street. While interviewing DeJesus, deputies learned that he did not possess a New York State driver's license. Deputies further discovered an open can of beer in the cup holder and could smell the odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle.

Upon further investigation, deputies located a small amount of marijuana and a loaded handgun in the glove box of the vehicle during the stop. The firearm was a Browning .380 caliber semi-automatic handgun, which was loaded with several rounds of ammunition in the magazine and one round in the chamber.

DeJesus and Sparks were taken into custody without incident. DeJesus was charged with criminal possession of a weapon in the 2nd and 3rd degree, and was issued traffic tickets for aggravated unlicensed operator in the 3rd degree, unlicensed operator and failure to signal 100 feet before a turn. DeJesus also had an outstanding warrant for violation of probation. Sparks was also charged with criminal possession of a weapon in the 2nd and 3rd degree, unlawful possession of marijuana and consumption of alcohol in a motor vehicle. He also had an outstanding warrant for UPM.

Both men were held overnight in the Onondaga County Justice Center and are scheduled to be arraigned today.

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