

Town of Wallingford, Connecticut Department of Police Services

WILLIAM J. WRIGHT CHIEF OF POLICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lieutenant Anthony DeMaio Traffic Division (203) 294-2838

August 12, 2020

<u>Wallingford Police Seize Over a Pound of Marijuana, Edibles, Psilocybin Mushrooms & Over \$6,000</u> <u>Cash during Motor Vehicle Collision Investigation</u>

On August 11, 2020 at approximately 4:36 PM, Wallingford Police Communications received a 911 call reporting a motor vehicle collision fronting Café Ra, located at 350 Center Wallingford. Information provided by the caller indicated that one of the operators was possibly D.U.I. Members of the Wallingford Police Department Traffic Division, to include Lt. DeMaio, Officer Evans and Officer Baur, responded to the scene. During the on-scene investigation information was developed that the occupants of the at-fault vehicle, a 2014 Honda CRV, were changing seating positions prior to police arrival, and one occupant had temporarily fled the scene with a back-pack and cooler, and returned a short time later without the items.

As the on-scene investigation continued, numerous items of drug related paraphernalia were observed in the Honda CRV in plain view of investigators. The accused was identified as Edward Nigretti, age 19 of Cheshire, who ultimately cooperated with police and related that he had been driving the vehicle without a license, and had caused the crash when his attention was taken off the roadway while looking at GPS on his cellular phone. Nigretti also led investigators to where he had stashed a back pack, cooler, and wallet full of cash in an attempt to protect himself from prosecution. While on-scene, Nigretti was administered the Standardized Field Sobriety Tests that led to probable cause for the charge of Driving While Under the Influence of Alcohol and/or Drugs.

The following items were recovered during the investigation, lending to Nigretti's arrest; Approximately 1.1 pounds of marijuana in various quantities and packaging, approximately 23 ounces of THC extracts of various forms and quantities, approximately 10 grams of psilocybin mushrooms, approximately 2.7 pounds of marijuana edibles, a large amount of packaging materials associated with the distribution and sales of marijuana, and more than \$6,000.00 in cash.





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Nigretti was released after posting a \$5,000 non-surety bond and will be arraigned at GA7 in Meriden on Friday October 9, 2020. Nigretti was charged with:

- Illegal Possession of a Marijuana With Intent to Sell
- Illegal Possession of a Marijuana (over ½ ounce)
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and/or Drugs
- Possession of Alcohol by a Minor
- Interfering with a Police Investigation
- Operating a Motor Vehicle Without a License
- Using a Cellular Device while Operating a Motor Vehicle
- Following too Closely

The passenger in the vehicle operated by Nigretti was identified as Hannah Ferrall, age 18 of Cheshire, who was charged with the following offenses for her involvement in the incident. Ferrall was found in possession of approximately 3 ounces of marijuana, approximately 12 grams of psilocybin mushrooms, and drug paraphernalia. She was released from the scene on her Promise to Appear in Court on October 9, 2020 at GA7 Meriden:

- Illegal Possession of Marijuana (over ½ ounce)
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- Interfering with a Police Investigation

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