



# Highlands Police Department

151 NAVESINK AVE; HIGHLANDS PD HIGHLANDS , NJ 07732

(732)872-1158

Officer Report for Incident 25HL08517

**Nature:** DWI

**Location:** P17

**Address:** 450 SR 36; QUICKCHEK

HIGHLANDS NJ 07732

**Offense Codes:** DUI

**Received By:** Sullivan, T

**How Received:** O

**Agency:** P17

**Responding Officers:** McGrath, C, Hartsgrove, T

**Responsible Officer:** McGrath, C

**Disposition:** CAA 11/15/25

**When Reported:** 23:27:08 11/14/25

**Occurred Between:** 23:27:08 11/14/25 and 23:27:08 11/14/25

**Assigned To:**

**Detail:**

**Date Assigned:** \*\*/\*\*/\*\*

**Status:**

**Status Date:** \*\*/\*\*/\*\*

**Due Date:** \*\*/\*\*/\*\*

## Complainant:

**Last:**

**First:**

**Mid:**

**DOB:** \*\*/\*\*/\*\*

**Dr Lic:**

**Address:**

**Race:**

**Sex:**

**Phone:**

**City:** ,

## Offense Codes

**Reported:** INTP Intoxicated Person

**Observed:**

**Additional Offense:** DUI DUI Alcohol or Drugs

## Circumstances

**Responding Officers:**

**Unit :**

McGrath, C

P17034

Hartsgrove, T

P17028

**Responsible Officer:** McGrath, C

**Agency:** P17

**Received By:** Sullivan, T

**Last Radio Log:** 01:00:28 11/15/25 C

**How Received:** O Ofcr. Initiated

**Clearance:** RR Report Required

**When Reported:** 23:27:08 11/14/25

**Disposition:** CAA Date: 11/15/25

**Judicial Status:**

**Occurred between:** 23:27:08 11/14/25

**Misc Entry:**

**and:** 23:27:08 11/14/25

**Statute:**

**Description :**

**Method :**

## Involvements

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Date	Type	Description	
11/15/25	Name	WERNER, MELODIE D	Offender
11/14/25	Citation	Moving Violation	Citation
11/14/25	Citation	Moving Violation	Citation
11/14/25	Citation	Moving Violation	Citation
11/14/25	Citation	Moving Violation	Citation
11/14/25	Offense	Under Influence Drugs; Alcohol - 1 count	Charged With
11/15/25	Vehicle	BLK 2016 JEEP CHE NJ	Vehicle History
11/14/25		[No description]	Demographics
11/14/25	Cad Call	23:27:08 11/14/25 DWI	Initiating Call
11/15/25		[No description]	Impounded

## Narrative

On 11/14/25 at approximately 2327 hrs, I observed a black Jeep, NJ: V41RCN, fail to maintain its lane while coming northbound over the Highlands/Sea Bright Bridge. As I got behind the vehicle on State Hwy Rt 36, the vehicle continued to fail to maintain its lane, specifically by going over the solid white line on the shoulder. As the vehicle attempted to leave State Rt 36 and go behind 450 State Rt 36 (Quickchek), towards Orchard Street, the vehicle struck branches and limbs of trees that were left on the side of the road from a fallen tree. It should be noted that the debris was not in the roadway and was well off of the road when the vehicle struck them. It was at this time that I activated my overhead lights and attempted to stop the vehicle. The vehicle turned left into the Quickchek parking lot and came to a stop parallel to the gas pumps.

I exited my vehicle and activated my body worn camera (BWC). I made contact with the driver who was later identified as Melodie Werner of Cliffwood. Werner's eyes were bloodshot and watery. When Werner spoke she had slurred speech. I observed the odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the vehicle and she was the only occupant. I asked Werner if she had consumed any alcoholic beverages to which she stated "One beer". It was at this time that I brought Werner's documents back to my patrol vehicle and checked them for validity.

Once that was complete, I approached Werner's vehicle again and asked her to step out of her vehicle so that I could conduct Standard Field Sobriety Tests (SFST's) with her to determine if she should be driving. Werner exited her vehicle and walked to where I instructed her to stand.

The first SFST I conducted with Werner was the Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus test (HGN). My pretest observations were that she had equal tracking and pupil size in both eyes. During the test, I observed the lack of smooth pursuit, distinct and sustained nystagmus at maximum deviation and the onset of nystagmus prior to 45 degrees for a total of 6 clues of impairment. Patrolman Hartsgrrove conducted HGN and observed the same indicators of impairment.

The second SFST I conducted with Werner was the Walk and Turn Test (WAT). I placed her in the starting position and began to explain the test. Werner had to be placed back in the starting position multiple times. After I was done explaining the test, I advised her that she could begin. Werner took 10 steps, missed heel to toe and raised her arms for balance. She then turned around and stopped. I asked if she would like me to explain the test again and she agreed. I explained and demonstrated the test again and advised her that she could begin again. On her second attempt, she took 9 steps, missed heel to toe and raised her arms for balance. She turned around in the wrong direction and took 9 steps back. She missed heel to toe and raised her arms for balance on the second set of 9 steps as well.

The third SFST I conducted with Werner was the One Leg Stand Test (OLS). Once I was done explaining and demonstrating the test, I advised her that she could begin. During the test, Werner placed her raised foot on the ground at "Six-One Thousand" and was advised to pick up where she left off. She continued to count and miscounted at "Thirteen-One Thousand" by going backwards to "Twelve-One Thousand". and then back to "Thirteen-One Thousand".

It was at this time that based on the indicators of impairment during the SFST's and her operation of a motor vehicle that I placed her under arrest for Driving While Intoxicated. She was placed in double locked handcuffs behind her back without incident. I placed her in the rear of Patrol Car 1711 and seat belted her in for transport to Police Headquarters. It was at this time that Patrolman Hartsgrrove and I searched her vehicle for intoxicants. While searching her vehicle, two empty Beatbox flavored alcoholic beverages (11.0% ABV), a half empty Surfside and an unopened Surfside were found in her bag. In addition to the alcohol, 4 five pound containers of uncooked meat in sealed packages as well as multiple containers of food were on her front seat. We advised Werner that we would bring the containers with us so that the food did not go bad while her vehicle was impounded for John's Law.

Werner was then transported back to headquarters for processing. While transporting Werner to headquarters, the interior of my patrol vehicle filled with the odor of an alcoholic beverage. I continued to smell the odor through a closed partition for the duration of the transport.

Once back at headquarters, a 20 minute observation was conducted and I read Werner two forms. The first form I read to her was her Miranda Warning. I advised her of her rights and she stated that at this time she did not wish to speak to me by stating "No, I'm good". The second form I read her was the NJ Attorney General Standard Statement for Motor Vehicle Operators form. I advised her that the law requires her to submit samples of her breath for testing and that if she did not submit samples of her breath that she would be charged with a refusal. When asked if she would submit samples of her breath she stated "Yeah". Once the 20 minute observation was completed, Werner provided two acceptable samples of her breath. Werner's breath test yielded a 0.181 BAC%. She was then processed and released to a sober party as per John's Law. She was given a court date in Highlands Municipal Court and was issued the following summonses:

39:4-88 Marked Lanes  
39:4-50 Driving While Intoxicated  
39:4-96 Reckless Driving  
39:4-51B Open Container of Alcohol in MV

Sgt. McGrath #34

## Supplement

01:00:28 11/15/2025 - Sullivan, T

CAD Call info/comments

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23:27:08 11/14/25 - Sullivan, T  
IN THE PARKING LOT

23:39:39 11/14/25 - Sullivan, T - From: McGrath, C  
FEMALE 41

23:40:09 11/14/25 - Sullivan, T - From: McGrath, C  
HOOK FOR JOHNS LAW

23:44:24 11/14/25 - Sullivan, T  
NO ANSWER FOR JOHNNY US TOWING X 2 // ATT HENNESSEYS TOW

23:44:36 11/14/25 - Sullivan, T

HENNESSEYS TOW NTFD

23:45:51 11/14/25 - Crotchfelt, A - From: McGrath, C  
SM 43227.5 BWC ON

23:49:04 11/14/25 - Crotchfelt, A - From: McGrath, C  
EM 43228.6

23:55:03 11/14/25 - Sullivan, T - From: McGrath, C  
20 MIN OBSERVATION

00:16:01 11/15/25 - Sullivan, T - From: McGrath, C  
TOW HAS THE VEH

01:00:05 11/15/25 - Sullivan, T

Nature change from STOP to DWI

01:00:20 11/15/25 - Sullivan, T - From: McGrath, C  
41 HAS BEEN RELEASED

**Vehicles****Vehicle Number:**

933846

**License Plate:** V41RCN**State:** NJ**Vehicle Year:** 2016**Make:** JEEP Jeep**Color:** BLK /**Vehicle Type:** PCAR Passenger Car**License Type:****Expires:** 06/30/26**VIN:** 1C4PJMDB2GW134031**Model:** CHE**Doors:** 0**Value:** \$0.00**Owner:****Last:** NADOLNY**DOB:** [REDACTED] 87**First:** MATTHEW**Dr Lic:** [REDACTED]**Mid:** S**Address:** 11 E. 3RD ST**Race:****Sex:** M**Phone:** ( ) -**City:** KEYPORT, NJ 07735-1816**Agency:****Officer:****UCR Status:****Local Status:****Status Date:** \*\*/\*\*/\*\***Comments:****Date Recov/Rcvd:** \*\*/\*\*/\*\***Area:****Wrecker Service:****Storage Location:****Release Date:** \*\*/\*\*/\*\*

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**Name Involvements:**

**Offender :** 437470

**Last:** WERNER

**DOB:** [REDACTED] 91

**First:** MELODIE

**Dr Lic:** [REDACTED]

**Mid:** D

**Address:** 336 MIDDLEWOOD RD

**Race:** W

**Sex:** F

**Phone:** ( ) -

**City:** MIDDLETOWN, NJ 07748