



NEWS RELEASE

TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN POLICE

SUBJECT: Fleeing Shoplifter Arrested and in possession of drugs

DATE/TIME: 12-17-09

LOCATION: Hwy 66

OFFICERS INVOLVED: Jesse Orbach, Kevin Donohoe and Jeffry Malone

ACCUSED: **Mark E. Wixler, Age 32 of Belmar**

NARRATIVE

On 12-17-09 at approximately 5:57 pm, police received a call from an employee at the Target store in reference to a shoplifting in progress. The employee advised that a male subject had just removed a DVD player and I-pod docking station and was now leaving the store. That subject then got into a 2006 Nissan and left the area. A short time later, Officer Jesse Orbach located the Nissan traveling on Hwy 66 west. He subsequently stopped the Nissan and identified the male subject as **Mark E. Wixler** who was a passenger in the vehicle. The DVD player and the I-pod docking station were located on the floor of the Nissan where Wixler was sitting. Wixler was also found to be in possession of a bag of marijuana, a prescription legend drug, later identified as suboxone and a hypodermic syringe. A pair of scissors was also found in the Nissan. Further investigation revealed that Wixler was also caught on Target video surveillance on 12/16/09, the day before, using scissors to remove the security devices off of other DVD players and electronic devices which he later shoplifted. Wixler was subsequently placed under arrest and transported to OTPD for further processing. The 2006 Nissan was seized under the state criminal forfeiture guidelines.

Wixler was charged with Shoplifting, Possession of Burglar Tools, Possession of a prescription legend drug, Possession of Marijuana and Possession of a Syringe. He was later released on a criminal summons pending a court hearing.

PREPARED BY: Detective Lieutenant Steven R. Peters

DATE: 12/18/2009