



9/21/2016

Press Release

To: Area media outlets

From: Hampton Police Department

Re: Arrest of Heather Kent and Jason Nelson

The Hampton Police Department has arrested and charged an Amesbury, Massachusetts woman with: Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated, Endangering the Welfare of a Child, and Open Container of Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle. Additionally, police arrested and charged her passenger, a Seabrook, New Hampshire man, with False Reports to Law Enforcement.

On Tuesday September 20, 2016 at approximately 5:26pm, the Hampton Police Department received a complaint of Reckless Operation in the area of Lafayette Road near Route 101 in the town of Hampton. An officer working a construction detail heard the report over his radio and observed the suspected vehicle traveling north on Lafayette Road. After observing motor vehicle violations, the officer pulled the vehicle over and identified the operator as Heather Kent, 29, of Amesbury, Massachusetts.

Subsequent investigation lead the officer to determine that Kent was under the influence of alcohol and had also been transporting a 4 year old in her vehicle at that time. Police took Kent into custody for Aggravated Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. Police also discovered an open container of alcohol in the motor vehicle and Kent was subsequently charged with an offense of Open Container in a Motor Vehicle. Police also allege that Kent submitted to a breath test which disclosed an alcohol concentration above .16, adding another aggravating factor to the Driving Under the Influence offense.

Officers reported that during the investigation, Kent's passenger gave a false name. He was later identified as Jason Nelson, 41, of Seabrook, NH. Nelson was subsequently charged with False Reports to Law Enforcement.

Kent was bailed on \$750 cash bail and will be arraigned at the 10th Circuit Seabrook District Court on September 27, 2016.

Nelson was released on personal recognizance bail and will be arraigned at the 10th Circuit Seabrook District Court on November 1, 2016

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The child in this case was later released to the custody of a family member at the police department.

The Hampton Police Department is continuing to investigate the incident. Police are encouraging residents to seek safe and sober rides.

Anyone with information on incidents occurring in the Town of Hampton is urged to contact the Hampton Police Department at 603-929-4444. Anonymous tips can be made through the Crimeline for the Hamptons at <https://www.tipsubmit.com> and selecting **Hamptons** as the region or by texting to the word CRIMES (274637) with the keyword **Hamptons**.



Heather Kent, 29
Amesbury, MA

Jason Nelson, 41
Seabrook, NH