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Kingwood Trooper's Car Stop Uncovers Multi-County Counterfeit Operation

The New Jersey State Police have **arrested Michael Owens, 24, and Iziera Johnson, 18, both of Trenton, N.J.** after a car stop for a traffic violation led to the discovery of counterfeit money and a subsequent investigation that linked the duo to crimes in multiple jurisdictions in Hunterdon, Somerset, Mercer, and Monmouth Counties.

On Wednesday, February 15, at 6:25 p.m., Trooper James Porch stopped Michael Owens, who was driving a Ford Explorer in Flemington Borough, for a traffic violation. During the traffic stop, Trooper Porch discovered marijuana inside of the vehicle and arrested Owens and his passenger, Iziera Johnson. When Johnson was searched as a result of the arrest, troopers discovered several hundred dollars of counterfeit money in her clothing.

Further investigation by Kingwood Station detectives linked Owens and Johnson to counterfeit currency investigations in Readington, Raritan and Clinton Townships in Hunterdon County and several other jurisdictions throughout the state. Detectives shared the information learned from this investigation with each local agency and notified the United States Secret Service, which will continue the investigation.

Owens was charged with complicity, conspiracy to commit acts of forgery, forgery, and possession of marijuana under 50 grams. Johnson was charged with forgery, tampering with evidence, and hindering apprehension. There were logged in the Hunterdon County Jail on a no bail warrant.

Great Job Kingwood Troops!

Charged are accusations and the suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty.



Iziera Johnson