



Salisbury Police Department

699 W. Salisbury Pkwy
Salisbury, Maryland 21801
Tel: 410-548-3113 Fax: 410-548-3129



MEDIA RELEASE

March 12, 2021

(Arrest- Handgun Possession)

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Salisbury Police arrest suspect late Thursday evening during a traffic stop for being in possession of a handgun.

On March 11, 2021, at approximately 11:20 in the evening, officers from the Salisbury Police Department were conducting patrol in the area of N. Division Street and Boston Avenue. They observed a vehicle traveling through the area that matched the description of a vehicle suspected to be connected to a report alleging shots were being discharged from a firearm at 11:25 in the morning on the 1000 block of Adams Avenue. Officers conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle in the parking lot of Motel 6, located at 2615 N. Salisbury Boulevard. Upon coming to a stop, the driver and sole occupant of the vehicle, exited the vehicle and began to flee on foot. Officers were able to apprehend the driver and located a loaded Smith & Wesson nine-millimeter semi-automatic handgun on the driver's person. The driver, identified as 37-year-old Jose Luis Gonzalez-Ruperto (pictured below), was placed under arrest for possession of the handgun. An amount of suspected Ecstasy, a Schedule I controlled dangerous substance, was located in the vehicle Mr. Gonzalez-Ruperto was operating and found to be in quantity and packaging consistent with the intent to distribute.

Upon further investigation, Mr. Gonzalez-Ruperto was determined to be a prohibited person from possessing regulated firearms due to prior criminal convictions. Mr. Gonzalez-Ruperto was transported to the Salisbury Police Department and later released to the Wicomico County Detention Center to be seen by a District Court Commissioner.

This investigation was coordinated under the Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network (MCIN). The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) provides grant funding and strategic support to MCIN member sites to identify, disrupt, and dismantle criminal organizations through inter-agency collaboration and data sharing to make Maryland safer. The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention assisted in the funding of this project. All points of view in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position of any Maryland State office or agency.

At the time of the traffic stop, the handgun was found to have an obliterated serial number. Officers and Detectives are continuing their investigation into how Mr. Gonzalez-Ruperto came to be in possession of the handgun. This investigation is ongoing and the Salisbury Police Department is requesting anyone with additional information concerning this investigation to contact the Salisbury Police Department Criminal Investigation Division at (410) 548-3165. Information can also be provided anonymously through Crime Solvers at (410) 548-1776.

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CASE # 202100007915
A/ Captain Ryan Koerner



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ARREST:

Jose Gonzalez Ruperto, 37 years-of-age
Salisbury, MD

CHARGES:

Illegal Possession of a Regulated Firearm, Handgun on Person,
Loaded Handgun on Person, Knowingly Alter Firearm ID Number,
Firearm Possession with Felony Conviction,
CDS Distribution in Possession of Firearm,
Firearm Possession: Drug Trafficking,
CDS Possession with Intent to Distribute,
CDS Possession with Intent to Distribute within 1000 Feet of School Zone

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A/ Captain Ryan Koerner