



Town of Wallkill Police Department

MEDIA RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
December 27, 2013**

Incident: Motor Vehicle Collision – Two Children Seriously Injured
Location: 80 Tower Drive, Town of Wallkill, NY
Date/Time: December 26, 2013 / 7:33 pm

On Thursday, December 26, 2013 at 7:33 pm, members of this Department responded to a report of a one car motor vehicle collision at 80 Tower Drive. Upon arrival officers discovered that a 2003 Dodge Durango sports utility vehicle, with four occupants inside, had struck a utility pole. Two of the four occupants, seated in the rear of the vehicle, suffered very serious head injuries and were removed by Medivac helicopters to Westchester County Medical Center. The other two occupants, seated in the front of the vehicle, were removed by Goshen Volunteer Ambulance Corps (GOWVAC) to Orange Regional Medical Center (ORMC) for evaluation. During the course of the investigation into the collision, it was discovered that the driver, the mother of the other three occupants of the auto, was operating the vehicle while she was under the influence of narcotics. It was also determined that none of the children were wearing seat belts nor secured in child safety seats.

The Town of Wallkill Police Department is continuing to investigate the collision. Assistance was provided by the Town of Wallkill Volunteer Ambulance (TOWVAC), the City of Middletown Police, the Silverlake Fire Department, Mobile Life Support Services, and Orange County Child Protective Services.

The victims who were injured are identified as:

Brianna Ebbecke
7 year old female
Sprague Street
City of Middletown
Front seat passenger

Chloe Ebbecke
6 year old female
Sprague Street
City of Middletown
Rear passenger seat



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Shaelan Ebbecke
4 year old female
Sprague Street
City of Middletown
Rear passenger seat

The driver of the vehicle is identified as:

Heather Linguanti

27 years old

Fortune Road West, Town of Wallkill

Remanded to Orange County jail after being charged with:

3 Counts of Felony DWI under VTL 1192(2)(b) "Operating a Vehicle While Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs" because there were three children less than fifteen years of age in the vehicle.

1 Count of Misdemeanor DWI under VTL 1192(4) "Operating a Vehicle While Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs."

3 Counts of Misdemeanor Endangering the Welfare of a Child under Penal Law 260.10.

Ms. Linguanti was also cited for thirteen other VTL violations.

Robert C. Hertman
Chief of Police

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