



# Hampton Police Division Media Release

40 Lincoln Street  
Hampton, VA 23669  
727-6638



**For Immediate Release**

**July 7, 2015**

On May 14, 2015 at 12:30 a.m., Officers were in the area of South Back River Road and Newport News Avenue when they observed a gold Pontiac minivan being driven by an individual that was previously known to the officers as having a suspended driver's license. Officer's conducted a traffic stop at that location and came in contact with the driver. The driver was uncooperative with the officers at the scene and as a result they were unable to confirm his identity. Due to the time of day and the location, which is known to officers as being a high crime and drug area, a police K-9 was utilized to scan the vehicle which resulted in the K-9 altering to the odor of illegal drugs.

The officers asked the three passengers to exit the vehicle while a search was conducted of the vehicle. The search resulted in a small amount of suspected marijuana debris being located in the seat that was previously occupied by Andre Lloyd Wiggins. This led officers to search Mr. Wiggins. While searching him, Mr. Wiggins was leaned against the side of the van door, which began to close (sliding sideways) as he attempted to adjust his balance. This caused him to fall to the ground resulting in a facial injury. Officers immediately called for medics and begin administering first aid. Mr. Wiggins was transported to local hospital for treatment his injuries.

The investigation resulted in the driver being arrested for falsely identifying himself to law enforcement officers. Once he was taken to adult intake he was identified as Kenneth Lovell Piggee, a 46-year-old Hampton man that resides in the 700 block of Ashleigh Drive. Once he was identified, it was determined that Mr. Piggee had a warrant on file for one count of revocation of a suspended sentence, he had a suspended driver's license and he had been declared a habitual offender by the Commonwealth of Virginia. He was charged with one count of falsely identifying himself to a law enforcement officer and one count of operating a motor vehicle after being declared a habitual offender. He was also served with the outstanding warrant for revocation of a suspended sentence and remains in custody at the Hampton City Jail.

The Hampton Police Division is committed to open communication, transparency and public trust. This incident was captured by the officer's dash camera and can be seen on the Division's Facebook page. The Division deeply regrets that Mr. Wiggins was injured. However, we feel that the video footage clearly shows that Mr. Wiggins injury was an accident and not as a result of a use of force. It is standard practice to conduct an internal investigation into any incident that results in an individual being injured in police custody and the investigation into this incident is on-going.

Because of the ongoing investigation, the video was appropriately withheld pursuant to an exception under the Freedom of Information Act which provides for the discretionary release of records associated with an internal investigation. Given the unique circumstances of this incident and our commitment to transparency, the Division has agreed to release the relevant portion of the video footage that provides the clearest view of the incident.

Sgt. Jason Price will receive questions about this release at 757-727-6638.

##### END #####