From:	Wallace, Gary
To:	Press Release
Cc:	Sworn Officers
Subject:	Fwd: Stolen m/v arrest
Date:	Saturday, July 26, 2014 1:03:47 AM

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for release

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Wallace, Gary" <Gary.Wallace@MiddletownCT.Gov>
> **Date:** July 26, 2014 at 12:37:22 AM EDT
> **To:** "Wallace, Gary" <Gary.Wallace@MiddletownCT.Gov>
> **Subject: Stolen m/v arrest**
>
> July 25, 2014
>
> For Immediate Release
>
> Car thief caught after joy riding
>
> At around 1:15PM Middletown Police took a complaint of a stolen motor vehicle from A resident on Stoneycrest Drive. A 2010 Honda Accord color gray was left running in front of a residence while the owner ran inside momentarily. Three males walking in the area spotted the vehicle and one decided to steal it when he saw the driver exit the car, leave it running, and go inside of an apartment. A witness nearby spotted the male stealing the car and was able to give police a good physical description of the male. He was described as a dark skin black male, about 5'10" tall with a short Afro, thin, wearing a white tank top, gray pants, and was possibly in his 20's.
>
> Police canvassed the area and relayed the information to other officers.
>
> At around 5:46PM, Middletown Officer Robert Kraeger was patrolling in a marked unit in the area of East Main Street and Maple Street when he observed the vehicle make a turn in front of him and begin to quickly accelerate,away from him. In the course of doing so, the vehicle almost

struck two pedestrians. The Officer attempted to pull the vehicle over as it continued to elude him. The vehicle crashed a short distance later causing additional damage to a large tree, a fire hydrant, and a street sign.

Subsequently, Officers detained the driver of the reported stolen vehicle and identified him as Kenneth Hofler (18) of 50h Rose Circle, Middletown, CT. Hofler was arrested and transported safely to police headquarters.

While in custody, Hofler was interrogated and spoke voluntarily to police. He confessed to stealing the Honda when he saw the operator exit the car and leave it running to go inside of an apartment. Initially, he was only going around the corner with the vehicle but decided to keep it. When asked why he took it he simply said that the owner of the car was rich. When asked what he meant by that he told police that anyone with more more money than him was rich.

Kenneth Hofler was held on a 75,000 surety bond. He is scheduled to appear at Middlesex Superior Court GA-9 on Monday, July 28th, 2014 to answer for the following charges:

Larceny In the Second Degree
Engaging in Pursuit
Operating a m/v without a License
Reckless Driving
Evading Responsibility
Interfering
Criminal Mischief in the Third Degree
Seat belt violation

The Middletown Police would like to remind citizens to never leave your vehicle unattended and/or unlocked at any time. "Most" incidents involving thefts of vehicles or thefts from vehicles are instances of opportunity.

Captain Gary Wallace
Investigative Services Division Commander
Acting Public Information Officer
/Middletown Police Department
222 Main Street
Middletown, CT
Gary.wallace@middletownct.gov

Sent from my iPad