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Press Release

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[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

Bridge and Tunnel Officers Corral Parole Violator With Outstanding Felony Warrants Inside Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel

A parole violator with several outstanding felony warrants was arrested by MTA Bridge and Tunnel Officers after being corralled inside the Manhattan-bound east tube of the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel this morning in what started as a routine traffic stop.

The suspect, who has yet to be identified because he was using as many as eight aliases, was arrested around 8:30 a.m. and taken to the 76th Precinct in Brooklyn where he will be charged with driving under the influence, reckless driving, operating with a suspended license and other charges. The NYPD Warrant Squad was also notified.

"This was an outstanding, cooperative effort on the part of our officers at the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel and an example of how routine police work can help remove potentially dangerous suspects from our streets," said Bridges and Tunnels Vice President and Chief of Operations James Fortunato.

The incident began around 8:15 a.m. when the suspect was stopped by Bridges and Tunnels Officer Bruce Eikeseth for an HOV lane violation. While Eikeseth questioned him, the suspect suddenly floored the gas pedal, taking off across the center median dividing the two tunnels and almost striking Officer Shawn Rutz. Rutz attempted to stop the car which continued into the two-lane, Manhattan-bound east tube.

Officer Eikeseth radioed Bridge and Tunnel Officer Luc Gustave at the patrol post on the tunnel's Manhattan exit and gave a description of the fleeing Honda Accord. Once inside, the suspect drove recklessly, changing lanes several times with enough speed and force to rip off his front bumper, according to B&T Sgt. John Frammarino.

Frammarino, the ranking officer at the scene, said while BTO Steven Panarella monitored the suspect from his patrol car inside the tunnel, Officers Ricardo Diaz, Andrew Peeples, and Luc Gustave entered the tube from the Manhattan side.

Realizing he was cornered, the suspect shut his car off, attempted but failed to climb onto the narrow walkway, and, at one point, even attempted to get inside someone else's car.

Gustave, Diaz and Peeples entered the tube shouting at the suspect to get back in his car as Frammarino was able to get close to him from the walkway on the opposite side of the tunnel. The suspect, who was pacing and talking on his cell phone but no longer trying to flee, was handcuffed and placed under arrest.

"Each one did a phenomenal job and should be commended," said Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel General Manager Marc Mende. "We're extremely proud of the work they did here today."