

COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Press Release

SHERIFF DAVID P. Bartlett

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: October 24, 2014

TRAFFIC STOP LEADS TO CACHE OF DRUGS

Clermont, NY- Columbia County Sheriff David P. Bartlett reports that a Tivoli man was arrested on drug charges after a vehicle stop for a traffic infraction on Lasher Road in the Town of Clermont, yesterday, October 23.

On October 23, 2014, at about 5:40pm while on routine patrol, Deputy Peter Grzeskow observed a 2001 Saturn being operated with dark tinted side windows. During the stop, a passenger of this vehicle was found to be in possession of heroin and cocaine. Deputies recovered 91 bags of heroin with a street value of \$1350 and approximately 3 grams of cocaine with a street value of \$180.

The driver, 23 year old Cassandra L. Lester of Germantown, was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the Third Degree (Class U Misdemeanor) and Side windows not transparent (Violation). She was released on tickets.

The passenger, 22 year old Francis A. Barone, of Tivoli, was charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree (Class B Felony) and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Seventh Degree (Class A Misdemeanor).

Barone was arraigned before Judge Moore in Livingston Town Court and remanded to the Columbia County Jail in lieu of \$5,000 bail. He is scheduled to appear back in court on November 13.

Assisting Deputy Grzeskow from the Sheriff's Office were Investigator Paul Graziano, Sergeant Donald Krapf, K9 Deputy Travis VanAlstyne, and Deputy Cindy Madison. Also assisting with this arrest was the District Attorney's Office.