

WARREN COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

JESSICA L. CARDONE
ACTING PROSECUTOR



BRENTON S. WARNE
ACTING CHIEF OF DETECTIVES

413 Second Street, Belvidere New Jersey 07823
Phone: (908)475-6275 Fax: (908)475-6344

www.wcpo-nj.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 22, 2025

ARRESTED: PIERRE R. TRANQUILUS
 EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY
 AGE: 47

On Saturday, April 19, 2025, at approximately 7:45 A.M., New Jersey State Troopers assigned to the Hope Barracks were dispatched to a single motor vehicle accident involving a school bus on Interstate 80, westbound, milepost 3.0, in Knowlton Township, Warren County. Upon arrival, Troopers discovered the school bus disabled in the left lane, with heavy front end damage. The school bus was carrying a total of twenty-five juveniles and two adults, at least one injury was reported.

The driver, identified as Pierre R. Tranquilus of East Orange, NJ showed signs of impairment and was unable to pass Standard Field Sobriety Tests. As a result of the investigation, Tranquilus was issued a multitude of motor vehicle summonses to include Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol in a motor vehicle and Driving While Intoxicated, charged with the below listed offenses, and lodged in the Warren County Correctional Center in Belvidere, New Jersey, pending his first court appearance.

1. Endangering the Welfare of a Child, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4a(2), a crime of the second degree;
2. Endangering Another Person, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:24-7.1a(3), a crime of the third degree;
3. Assault by Auto, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:12-1c(2), a crime of the fourth degree.

Second degree crimes carry a maximum sentence of 10 years in the New Jersey State Prison, third degree crimes carry a maximum sentence of five years in the New Jersey State Prison, and fourth degree crimes carry a maximum sentence of 18 months in the New Jersey State Prison.

The charges are merely accusations. The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.