



# WESTFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Honor, Integrity, Pride.



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## WESTFIELD POLICE ANNOUNCE ARREST OF WESTFIELD MAN FOR SECOND DEGREE ROBBERY

**WESTFIELD – DECEMBER 31, 2020** – Westfield Police Chief Christopher Battiloro has announced the arrest of Dustin G. Eli, age 24, of Westfield on Wednesday, December 30, 2020, for second degree Robbery, 2C:15-1a(2).

Eli was arrested by detectives in the parking lot of a business located on the 700 block of Central Avenue at approximately 6:48 PM, immediately following his apparent involvement in a reported disruptive incident that occurred inside a nearby business.

Detectives were already actively investigating a separate reported incident apparently involving Eli that occurred at a take-out restaurant located on the 500 block of Central Avenue. In that incident, it was reported that an unidentified male subject entered the restaurant, ordered himself food, and was then unable to pay for it.

A verbal altercation ensued in which the suspect punched the counter's plastic partition and threatened to shoot a restaurant employee, while making a gesture intimating he was in possession of a firearm. The suspect then left the restaurant with monies stolen from a tip jar.

Detectives were able to readily identify Eli as a suspect in the restaurant incident as a result of their investigation of his suspected involvement in other reported thefts occurring at other Westfield establishments on other dates.

Chief Battiloro credited the attentive lead investigative work of Detectives Robert Desiato and Donald Domanoski, while operating under the direction of Detective Sergeants Kevin O'Keefe and Lauren Maloney, with identifying and apprehending Eli so quickly following the restaurant incident.

Upon arrest, Eli was transported to the Westfield Police Department where he was processed, served with a complaint-warrant, and held until being transferred to the Union County Jail, where he shall remain incarcerated pending a detention hearing.

Anyone with any information relating to this incident, or any other incidents involving similar acts or persons, is asked to contact Detective Desiato by telephone at 908-789-6084 or by e-mail at [rdesiato@wpdnj.org](mailto:rdesiato@wpdnj.org).



#WestfieldStrong

*"Our Family Helping Your Family"*

@WestfieldNJPD

