



Police Department

TOWN OF HYDE PARK

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Charles H. Broe, Sr.
Chief of Police

Robert J. Benson
Lieutenant

TO: Press Sources

DATE OF INCIDENT: September 11, 2011 11:33 PM

LOCATION: West Market St., Town of Hyde Park

INCIDENT: Subject threatens another with gravity knife, is arrested by HP Police

Last night just after 11:30 PM, Hyde Park Police were dispatched to the area of the Crossroads Pub on West Market St., after Dutchess County 911 received a call for a male subject having threatened another man outside of the establishment with a large knife. Officers arrived on scene and detained a suspect, while an investigation commenced to determine what had happened.

Officers located the victim, who told police that the suspect (later identified as 44-year-old John Launzinger of Hyde Park) had attempted to repeatedly engage him and a female in conversation throughout the evening, and continually asked the victim to shake his hand. The victim stated that when he refused the suspect's repeated requests to shake his hand, the suspect became very angry and made several threatening gestures towards him. It is alleged that at that point, as the suspect was walking away, he turned around and stated he was going to cut the victim's throat, and then produced an app. 8 inch long gravity knife. Police were called, and neither the victim nor anyone else was injured.

At the time of his arrest, Launzinger was also found in possession of a switchblade knife; it was further determined that he had previous criminal convictions, which escalates the degrees of the charges for possessing both weapons. Launzinger was booked at Hyde Park Police Headquarters, and was arraigned before the Hon. Judge Steinberg in the early morning hours Tuesday. Launzinger was remanded to the Dutchess County Jail on \$7,500 cash / \$10,000 bond; he is scheduled to reappear in Hyde Park Town Court on Thursday.

Arrested: John S. Launzinger, 44, of Hyde Park

Charges: Criminal Possession of a Weapon 3rd Degree, a Class D Felony – Two (2) counts
Menacing 2nd Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor

Released by: Town of Hyde Park Police Dept., 09/12/2011 1410 hours