



# 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: October 22, 2011**

**LOCATION: Peach Road, Poughkeepsie (Town of Hyde Park)**

**INCIDENT: Man arrested after domestic dispute, threatened use of shotgun**

On Saturday afternoon just before 1pm, Hyde Park Police responded to a residence on Peach Road after a 911 call was received from the home; the line then went dead and DC-911 could not get the caller back on the line. Sgt. Paul Caccia and Officer Sean Phillips responded to check on the welfare of the occupants of the home.

Upon arrival, officers located a male subject outside the residence, and a female inside; the woman informed police that the two (husband and wife) had been involved in an argument. She told police that when she attempted to call 911, the husband ripped the phone cord out of the phone, rendering it inoperable; he then left the room and returned with a 12 gauge shotgun. The woman stated that the her husband, later identified as 65-year-old Richard Ragusa, pointed the shotgun at her and announced that he would shoot the police when they arrived, or anyone else who came to help her. Ragusa was placed into custody without incident by Hyde Park Police; in the couple's bedroom, police located a 12 gauge shotgun, a gun case, and a full box of 12 gauge ammunition. Police also subsequently recovered another shotgun and two .22 caliber rifles from the home.

Ragusa was transported to HPPD for processing; he was arraigned late Saturday afternoon before the Hon. Judge Steinberg in Hyde Park Town Court. Ragusa was remanded to the Dutchess County Jail on \$10,000 cash / \$20,000 bond, pending his next appearance on 10/26. An order of protection was issued to the victim; the Town of Hyde Park Police Department wishes to acknowledge the Dutchess County District Attorney's Office for their assistance with the case.

**Arrested:** Richard D. Ragusa, 65, of Poughkeepsie

**Charges:** Coercion 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, a Class D Felony  
Menacing 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor  
Criminal Mischief 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor

**Released by:** Town of Hyde Park Police Dept., 10/23/2011 2035 hours