



Police Department

TOWN OF HYDE PARK

1433 ROUTE 9G HYDE PARK, N.Y. 12538 • **Emergency (845) 229-9340** • Business (845) 229-5062 • FAX (845) 229-6953

Charles H. Broe, Sr.
Chief of Police

Robert J. Benson
Lieutenant

TO: Press Sources

DATE OF INCIDENT: November 1, 2011

LOCATION: Forest Drive, Town of Hyde Park

INCIDENT: Subject charged with multiple crimes after domestic dispute

The Town of Hyde Park Police Department has charged a male subject with multiple offenses after an investigation into a domestic dispute that occurred late last week. The female victim came to Police HQ on Sunday evening, and notified police that she and the father of her children had been involved in a violent domestic dispute three days earlier.

The victim told police that her boyfriend and father of her two children, later identified as 31-year-old Benjamin Castelos of Hyde Park, had become angry with her after the two had been involved in an argument at their residence on Forest Drive; the suspect allegedly pushed her several times, threw her around, and placed his hands around her neck causing her airway to be obstructed. Castelos also allegedly threatened to kill the victim, and would not allow her to leave the house or call for help. While this was occurring, the couple's 5-year-old and 2-year-old children were in the house.

Hyde Park Police launched an investigation; it was learned that the victim and the two children had been staying with a friend since the incident. Statements were taken and visible bruising and injuries to the victim's legs, ankles, arms and left ear were documented. It was also learned that a limited order of protection was in place against Castelos, issued in March of this year as the result of a previous incident. Just after 6 AM this morning, police learned of the suspect's whereabouts; Officer Daniel Speedling spotted Castelos in a vehicle, and a traffic stop was conducted in the area of 960 Violet Ave. Officer Speedling took the suspect into custody without incident.

Castelos was arraigned this morning in Hyde Park Town Court in front of the Hon. Judge Kennedy; he was remanded to the Dutchess County Jail on \$15,000 cash / \$30,000 bond, pending his next appearance on November 4th. It was further ordered that if the suspect makes bail, he is only to be released on electronic monitoring.

Arrested: Benjamin M. Castelos, 31, of Hyde Park

Charges: Coercion 1st Degree, a Class D Felony
Criminal Contempt 1st Degree, a Class E Felony
Criminal Obstruction of Breathing or Blood Circulation, a Class A Misdemeanor
Unlawful Imprisonment 2nd Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor
Assault 3rd Degree, a Class A Misdemeanor
Endangering the Welfare of a Child, a Class A Misdemeanor

Released by: Town of Hyde Park Police Dept., 11/01/2011 1010 hours