



*The City of  
Hopewell, Virginia*

Hopewell Police Department  
Kamran Afzal, Chief of Police  
804-541-2282



# MEDIA RELEASE

For Further Information Contact: Lt. Paul Intravia  
Criminal Investigations Unit - (804) 541-2273  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**\*\* Clandestine meth lab discovered during narcotics search warrant \*\***

**[Hopewell, VA]** – On February 28, 2019 at approximately 6:20a.m., detectives, executing a narcotics related search warrant at a residence located in the 1000 block of Elm Street, discovered a suspected “one-pot” clandestine methamphetamine lab. “As a precautionary measure and due to the extremely hazardous and volatile nature of the chemicals used in the manufacturing process, the residence was immediately evacuated and the scene further secured”, said Detective Lieutenant Paul Intravia.

Members of the Hopewell Fire Department, Ft. Lee Fire & Rescue and the Virginia State Police’s Clandestine Lab Unit responded to provide mutual aid, as well as, assistance in the removal of the hazardous materials. During a further search of the property, a suspected clandestine drug laboratory, chemicals associated with the manufacture of methamphetamine and other narcotics, were seized. The hazardous chemicals were subsequently disposed of pursuant to state and federal law. While the residence has been deemed unsafe for occupancy and a risk assessment of the property is underway, the danger to nearby residents has been eliminated.

As a result of the ongoing investigation, Ms. Savanna K. Berlingeri, Age: 32, of Hopewell, was arrested on charges of Manufacturing methamphetamine, possession of a controlled substance (Schedule I/II), possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. Additionally, Ms. Dallas A. Johnson, Age: 26, of Dinwiddie County, was arrested on charges of possession of a controlled substance (Schedule I/II) and possession of drug paraphernalia. Both were transported to the Riverside Regional Jail where they are currently being held pending their arraignment on all charges.

As part of a new strategic effort to combat crime and disorder, the Hopewell Police Department has recently redeployed several key department personnel. “The collaborative effort between those redeployed officers and the community members who have grown intolerant of criminal activity in their neighborhood and whom provided vital information on this location, directly led to today’s arrests”, said Captain Mike Whittington.

Attached are photographs of both Ms. Savanna K. Berlingeri and Ms. Dallas A. Johnson.

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