Sheriff's Office warrant sweep nets nearly 30 arrests in Hudson County

JERSEY CITY -- The Hudson County Sheriff's Office warrant sweep dubbed "Operation Trick-or-Treat" resulted in the arrest of nearly 30 people this weekend wanted on a variety of charges in multiple municipalities.

"It was a very successful roundup which took fugitives off the streets of Hudson County and made the streets safer for residents," Hudson County Sheriff Frank Schillari said.

The raid began at 3 a.m. Saturday and utilized more than 50 officers. Arrests ranged on charges from gun, drug, failure to pay child support, cruelty to children, and sex offenses and were made in Jersey City, North Bergen, Bayonne, Union City and West New York.

Omar Molina, of Fowler Avenue in Jersey City, was arrested for failing to appear for a hearing related to drug charges and was then found to be in possession of suspected heroin, cocaine, marijuana and Molly. He was additionally charged with 17 drug counts, Schillari said.

Wilfredo Montanez, of Jersey City, was arrested on warrants for unlawful possession of a firearm, theft, drug charges and several warrants out of Hudson County municipal courts, Schillari said.

Mayenli Bautista Garcia, of Hoboken, was arrested on a warrant for aggravated assault on an EMT; Karen Bautista, of Union City, was arrested on a warrant for impersonating a law enforcement officer, and Theo James, of Morton Place in Jersey City, was arrested for failure to pay nearly \$40,000 in child support, Schillari said.

Others arrested on various criminal warrants were Eric Vargas, of Bayonne; Melvin Bueno, of North Bergen; Kerwin Perez, of Union City; Luigi Santos, of West New York, and Jersey City residents Marcel Thompson, Rovi Sese, and James Waldron, Schillari said.

Arrested on warrants for drug possession were Issel Olivera of North Bergen, and Jersey City residents Kelvin Ortiz, Audrey Tucker, Karen Lawrence, Jermaine Watson, Jeffrey Roster, Jessica Engroff, Benjamin Casta, Tyrone Gardener and Christopher Floyd, Schillari said.

Others arrested for failure to pay child support were Jersey City residents Lawrence Peterson (\$20,200), Kevin Jones (\$19,300), and Corey Nettles (\$1,000), Schillari said.

While the officers were making the sweep, which ended around 11 a.m., Luis Mayorga, of Jersey City, was charged with driving while intoxicated and found to have a blood alcohol concentration of 0.18 percent, more than twice the legal limit, Schillari said.