



**CITY OF FALL RIVER MASSACHUSETTS
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Office of Professional Standards



Albert F. Dupere
Chief of Police

Lt. Gil Costa
Sgt. J.T. Hoar
Det. John Robinson

PRESS RELEASE

SUBJECT: FALL RIVER - Drug Arrests
DATE: December 4th, 2018

On Monday December 3rd, 2018, at approximately 9:30 pm, Detectives of Fall River Police Departments Vice and Intelligence Unit received information that Joan Rezendes age 58 and Paul Chasse age 23 would be in a Brown Hyundai and would be returning to the city by Route 195 east after purchasing a large quantity of Fentanyl.

Lead Detective Richard Aguiar was assisted by Detectives Heather Moniz, Gary Barboza, Joshua Robillard, Paul McGuire, Bryan Custadio, and Detective Sergeant Greg Wiley.

On arrival in the area of Route 195, Detective Aguiar observed Rezendes exiting the Hartwell Street off ramp. The vehicle she was driving was stopped on Hartwell Street at Fourth. Detectives exited their unmarked police vehicles with their badges displayed and announced they were conducting an investigation. When questioned, Chasse admitted to obtaining 5 bricks of Fentanyl and possessed a little over three bricks in his underwear (A brick is equal to 50 bags). Rezendes stated she snorted the few bags she received from Chasse for driving him and had no more on her or in her car. A search was conducted and Fentanyl bundles were located in Rezendes purse. In all 240 bags were confiscated, 180 bags were located on Chasse and 60 bags were recovered from Rezendes purse.

Joan Rezendes age 58 of 101 Bliss Street Fall River and **Paul Chasse age 23** of 366 Bank Street #1E Fall River were placed under arrest on charges of Possess to Distribute a Class A Substance and Conspiracy to Violate the Drug Law

Also on December 3rd, 2018 at approximately 9:40 pm, Officers of Fall River Police Departments Special Operations Division assigned to the Southeastern Massachusetts FBI Gang Task Force along with Massachusetts State Troopers assigned to that same Gang Task Force applied for and were granted search warrants for **Michael Klein age 41** of 162 Cory Street #2 Fall River and a 2017 Nissan Altima being operated by him.

FRPD detectives Eric Copsetta, Matt Mendes, and Greg Homen, along with MSP Troopers Sgt. Frank Walls, Sgt. Erik Telford, Trooper Paul Dunderdale, Trooper Steve Johnson, and Trooper Keith Ledin set up surveillance at the Cory Street address. Shortly after, Klein arrived and was detained. Klein was informed of the search warrant and the warrants were executed. The Task Force located 6 clear bags of suspected cocaine weighing 61.3 grams, 12 Suboxone Strips, 11 suspected Lorazepam tablets, 2 scales, 2 cell phones, and other items of standing. Nothing was located in the Nissan.

Michael Klein age **41** of 162 Cory Street #2 Fall River was arrested and charged with Trafficking in Cocaine, Possession of a Class B substance, and possession of a Class E Substance.



FALL RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Joan E. Rezendes
Age 58
LKA 101 Bliss Street
Fall River, Ma.
Charges: Possess to
Distribute a Class A
Substance and
Conspiracy to
Violate the Drug
Law



FALL RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Paul J. Chasse
Age 23
LKA 366 Bank
Street #1e
Fall River, Ma.
Charges: Possess to
Distribute a Class A
Substance and
Conspiracy to
Violate the Drug
Law





FALL RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Michael Klein
Age 41
LKA 162 Cory Street
#2
Fall River, Ma.
Charges: Trafficking
in Cocaine,
Possession of a
Class B Substance,
and Possession of a
Class E Substance



FALL RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Michael Klein
Age 41
LKA 162 Cory Street
#2
Fall River, Ma.
Charges: Trafficking
in Cocaine,
Possession of a
Class B Substance,
and Possession of a
Class E Substance



Detective J. Robinson
Public Information Officer
Office of Professional Standards

***** End of Release*****