

Massachusetts State Troopers arrest operator of speeding vehicle for trafficking cocaine

Just before 6 p.m. yesterday Trooper Tyler Hopkins and his Field Training Officer, Trooper Christopher Keane of State Police-Sturbridge, were conducting speed enforcement on Route 84 in Sturbridge. While in the area of Exit 3A they observed a gray Honda Accord traveling at a speed of 65 miles per hour where the posted speed limit is 50 miles per hour. Trooper Hopkins activated the cruiser's blue lights and initiated a motor vehicle stop on the Honda.

Upon the vehicle stopping both troopers approached it to speak with the operator, identified as DAVID BAEZ-VEGA, 28, of Springfield, informed him why he was stopped and gathered his information. Through further investigation on scene troopers built probable cause and received consent to search the vehicle. The results of the search revealed BAEZ-VEGA was concealing over one kilogram of a substance believed to be cocaine tightly wrapped in plastic. He was immediately placed under arrest and his vehicle was towed from the scene after a thorough search.

BAEZ-VEGA was transported to SP Sturbridge for booking where bail was set at \$2,500, which he was able to post. He was arraigned today at Dudley District Court on the following charges:

- Trafficking in Cocaine; and
- Speeding.