

J# 0522782 2106477 P# 448



Arrest Report

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
3440 S.E. 19TH AVE.
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL. 33316

Report Date / Time 4/18/2021 06:24 PM	Report Number C-4642AA	Case Number/Cad Number FWCS21OFF010477 / FWCS21CAD019156	Reporting Officer Name DEFE0, P
Originating Agency ORI FL0488000	Occur Date Time Range 04/18/2021 15:26:17 -	Jurisdiction	Clearance

Location of Occurrence

County PALM BEACH	Location Type PUBLIC PLACE	Location Description 180TH AVE AND VALENCIA BLVD
Street Number 180TH AVE N	Street	Apt/Lot/Bldg LOXAHATCHEE
City LOXAHATCHEE	State FL	Zip Code 33470

Defendant

First Name MELINDA	Middle Name JEAN	Last Name RIGDON	Suffix	Race WHITE	Sex FEMALE	Height 5'05"	Weight 190	Hair BLONDE	Eyes Green
MNI #	SSN	Date of Birth 11/09/1976	Age 44	ID Type E	Drivers License or other ID R235550769090	State FL	OCA / Agency ID		
Place of Birth:	USA H. Lauderdale Fl								
Address	Loxahatchee								
* RESIDENCE / 18763 HAMLIN BLVD , , FL 33470 /									

Arrest

Arrest Date/Time 4/18/2021 4:00:01 PM	Arrest Location Type PUBLIC PLACE	Arrest Location Description 180TH AVE N AND VALENCIA BLVD
Street Number 180TH AVE N	Street	Apt/Lot/Bldg PALM BEACH
City LOXAHATCHEE	State FL	Zip Code 33470

Charge : STATE STATUTE

Counts 1	Charge 316.193(1)(a)	Bond Amount \$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/> No Bond
Charge Degree FIRST DEGREE	Charge Level MISDEMEANOR	General Offense Code DUI-UNLAW BLD ALCH	
Charge Description DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE - ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, ANY CHEMICAL SUBSTANCE, OR ANY SUBSTANCE CONTROLLED AND THE PERSON'S NORMAL FACULTIES ARE IMPAIRED			

Bond Set by Officer

Bond Amount	<input type="checkbox"/> No Bond
Bond Type(s)	

Probable Cause

I, Officer Defeo, of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), was on patrol in my marked patrol truck. I was traveling north on 180th Ave N in Loxahatchee, County of Palm Beach, when I observed 3 vehicles stopped at the stop sign on 180th Ave. N and Valencia Blvd. The vehicles stayed stopped as I

Report Date / Time 4/18/2021 06:24 PM	Report Number C-4642AA	Case Number/Cad Number FWCS21OFF010477 / FWCS21CAD019156	Reporting Officer Name DEFEO, P
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approached them. I then made a right-hand turn onto Valencia Blvd and the last vehicle (105NKS) flagged me down. The driver stated the White van in front of him drove into oncoming lanes of traffic, almost getting into several accidents. He also said the driver drove off the road onto several driveways coming down Valencia Blvd.

The two front vehicles pulled onto 180th Ave and stopped. I turned my patrol truck around, pulled behind the white van and activated my blue lights. I exited the vehicle and approached the driver side window to conduct a welfare check of the driver to ensure she was not having some sort of medical episode. As I began speaking with the operator, Melinda J. Rigdon, I noticed that her speech was severely slurred. I then asked her for her driver license, registration, and insurance at which point I detected a moderate smell of an alcoholic beverage coming from her breath. As Rigdon was searching for the requested items, she was fumbling carelessly through her pocketbook, at one point she could not get her zipper open and then handed it to me to open it for her. She continued to fumble around and could not find her driver licenses.

I had Rigdon stay seated in her vehicle while I requested a Palm Beach Sheriff's Office (PBSO) D.U.I. unit. Dispatch notified me that PBSO did not have a unit available, so I began a D.U.I. investigation.

Based on the observed signs of impairment and the statements from independent witnesses I requested Rigdon exit the vehicle to conduct standardized field sobriety tasks. She complied as she walked to the rear of my patrol truck, she was unsteady on her feet. The task conducted, and the observations made are listed below.

Pre-Task Questions:

Do you have any physical disability or defect: NO
 Do you have any defects with your eyes: NO
 Are you sick or injured: NO
 Are you currently under the care of a doctor or dentist: NO
 Are you taking any medications or drugs: YES (high blood pressure)

Task conducted:

Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN), Finger to Nose, and One Leg Stand.

HGN

(equal pupil size / equal tracking / no resting nystagmus)
 Lack of smooth pursuit: Both eyes
 Distinct and sustained nystagmus at max deviation: Both eyes
 Onset prior to 45 degrees: Both eyes

Finger to nose

Unable to follow instructions and moved during instruction.
 Did not initially close eyes, opened eyes during task, and moved head during task (1"++)
 LEFT: wrong finger, hesitated, did not bring down
 RIGHT:
 LEFT: did not bring down

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RIGHT: did not bring down
 RIGHT: searched for nose, did not use fingertip, did not bring down
 LEFT: did not use fingertip, did not bring down

One leg stand

Swayed while balancing, used arms to balance (6"+), puts foot down numerous times, miss counted

Based on my observations and Rigdon's poor performance on the field sobriety tasks, Rigdon was placed under arrest for driving under the influence while her normal faculties were impaired. Once at the BAT a twenty-minute observation was conducted and Rigdon was asked to provide a sample of her breath as required by law. She refused.

Jail Booking Facility

Booking Date/Time 4/18/2021 06:28 PM	Booking County PALM BEACH	Booking Facility MAIN DETENTION CENTER	Booking Facility Phone (561) 996-1699
Booking Facility Location 3228 GUN CLUB ROAD WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA 33406-3001			Booking Number
Booking Comments			

Court


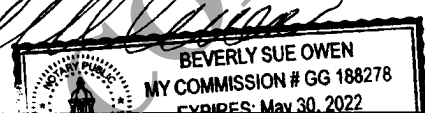

Court County PALM BEACH	Court Location 3228 GUN CLUB ROAD WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33406		
Court PALM BEACH COUNTY COURT AT GUN CLUB	Court Phone	Court Appearance Date / Time	Court Fine
Comments			

Officer Name Rank / ID # DEFEO, P OFFICER	Involved On Report / Reporting Role REPORTING OFFICER	Officer Agency Org/Unit FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FWCSISO REGION A/PALM BEACH
WN759		

Report Date / Time 4/18/2021 06:24 PM	Report Number C-4642AA	Case Number/Cad Number FWCS21OFF010477 / FWCS21CAD019156	Reporting Officer Name DEFEO, P
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The undersigned certifies and swears that he/she has just and reasonable grounds to believe that the above named Defendant, committed violation(s), of law, on the below date(s) and time(s), as listed in the probable cause associated with this report:

Reporting Officer

Officer Name DEFEO, P	Office Rank OFFICER	Officer ID No WN759	Sworn and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority This the <u>18th</u> day of <u>April</u> , <u>2021</u> DEPUTY OF THE COURT, NOTARY OR LAW ENFORCEMENT
Officer Agency FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION			 
Officer Signature  N759			

☐ No Bill / Petition
 ☐ Issue Warrant
 ☐ Prosecution Approved

Signature of Assistant State Attorney

Date

TESTING FACILITY TASK REPORT

AGENCY: FWC

SUBJECT: RIGDON, MELINDA J

DATE: Apr 18, 2021

BEGINNING TIME: 1711

CASE NUMBER: 21056762

VIDEO DVD NUMBER: N/A

ENDING TIME: 1721

BREATH TESTS RESULTS: 1) Refused TIME 1714 A.M. ☐ P.M. ☒ 2) TIME A.M. ☐ P.M. ☐
3) TIME A.M. ☐ P.M. ☐ 4) TIME A.M. ☐ P.M. ☐

BREATH OPERATOR: S. Owen #3184

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN: J. Karlecke #6467

TESTING OFFICER'S OBSERVATIONS

SPEECH:

ATTITUDE: CO-OPERATIVE, SAID SHE WAS NOT GOING TO BLOW

CLOTHING: TENNIS SHOES, PURPLE DRESS

MEDICAL CONDITIONS: HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

MEDICATIONS: HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE MEDS

OTHER:

D/L #R25-550-76-909-O FL (NOT CARRIED)

COMMENTS:

A/O AND DEFENDANT RIVED AT 1645 HOURS. A/O OBSERVED 20 MINUTES. A/O REQUESTED BREATH TEST, DEFENDANT REFUSED. A/O READ I/C, DEFENDANT UNDERSTOOD, STILL REFUSED. A/O READ C/W, DEFENDANTT UNDERSTOOD RIGHTS AND ANSWERED Q & A. ATE A HAMBURGER AT 1 P.M. ADMITTED DRINKING TWO BLOODY MARYS BETWEEN 11 A.M AND 12:30 P.M. COULD FEEL EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL BUT NOT UNDER INFLUENCE. TOOK MEDS AT 9:30 AM. TODAY



PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
DUI TESTING FACILITY
INFORMATION SHEET

~~PBSO~~ CASE # 21056762 PBSO ZONE 17-11

AGENCY CASE # FWCS210FF10477 CRASH CASE #

TIME OF STOP/CRASH 1527 DATE 4/18/2021 DAY Sunday

SUBJECT'S NAME Melinda J Rigdon RACE W SEX F

HGT 5' 05 WGT 190 DOB 11/09/1976

LOCATION 180th Ave N. #3 Valencia Blvd Loxahatchee FL

ARRESTING OFFICER'S NAME & ID P. Defeo N759 AGENCY FWC

DIVISION:

NOTIFIED BY COMMO yes

ARRIVAL AT FACILITY 1645

BREATH RESULTS:

Arrest Time 1600

1. **REFUSED**
2.
3.
4.

TESTING OFFICER'S ID 3184

1826 Hamilton Blvd
LOX FL
Blonde, green

DL# R235-550-76-909-0

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY & MOTOR VEHICLES
AFFIDAVIT OF REFUSAL TO SUBMIT TO
BREATH AND/OR URINE TEST**

I, OFC. P. Defeo N759, a duly certified Law Enforcement Officer or Correctional Officer,
(Name of Officer reading Implied Consent Warning)

am a member of Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and I do swear
(Name of law enforcement agency)

or affirm that on or about the 18 day of April, 20 21, at 1530 ^{3:30} ☒ P.M. ☐ A.M.

DRIVER Melinda Jean Rigdon
(Type or Print) FIRST NAME MIDDLE OR MAIDEN NAME LAST NAME

DL# R235-550-76-904-0, state of Florida, was placed under lawful arrest for
the offense of DUI normal faculties impaired by P. Defeo and
issued Citation # A2VOWEE
(Name of Arresting Officer)

That on or about the 18th day of April, 20 21, at 1714 ☒ P.M. ☐ A.M.
in Palm Beach County.

I requested that the driver submit to a ☒ breath and/or ☐ urine test to determine his or her blood alcohol level and/or the presence of chemical or controlled substances. I informed the driver that the refusal to submit to such test(s) would result in the suspension of his or her driving privilege for a period of one (1) year for a first refusal, or for a period of eighteen (18) months if his or her driving privilege had been previously suspended for refusing to submit to a breath, urine or blood test. I also informed the driver that he or she commits a misdemeanor by refusing to submit to a lawful test as requested above if his or her driving privilege has been previously suspended for refusal to submit to a lawful test of his or her breath, urine, or blood. Additionally, I informed the driver that if he or she holds a CDL, or was operating a CMV, refusal will result in the disqualification of the Commercial Driver's License/driving privilege for a period of one (1) year in the case of a first refusal or permanently if he or she has previously been disqualified as a result of a refusal to submit to any such lawful test. Nonetheless, the driver refused to submit to the test(s) requested.

[Signature] N759
Signature of Law Enforcement Officer or
Correctional Officer

THE AFFIDAVIT MUST BE NOTARIZED OR ATTESTED TO (F.S. 117.10)

The foregoing instrument was sworn and subscribed before me:

Signature of Attesting Officer

Title

Date

(AFFIX SEAL)

The foregoing instrument was sworn and subscribed before

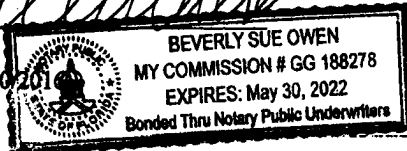
me this 18th day of April, 2021,

by OFC Defeo,

who is personally known to me or who has produced

[Signature] as identification
Notary Public

HSMV-BAR1001 (REV. 10/2011)



Note: Mail or hand deliver to the designated Bureau of Administrative Reviews office, Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, with the driver's license, the appropriate copy of the UTC, and the probable cause affidavit.

SUBJECT: _____ CASE NUMBER: _____

IMPLIED CONSENT FOR DUI IN A MOTOR VEHICLE

NOTE: READ ONLY THE PARAGRAPH APPLICABLE TO THE TYPE OF TEST YOU ARE REQUESTING.

I am now requesting that you submit to a lawful test of your BREATH for the purpose of determining its alcohol content.

-OR-

I am now requesting that you submit to a lawful test of your URINE for the purpose of detecting the presence of chemical or controlled substances.

-OR-

I am now requesting that you submit to a lawful test of your BLOOD for the purpose of detecting its alcohol content and the presence of chemical or controlled substances.

NOTE: READ ONLY IF THE SUBJECT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH YOUR REQUEST.

I am _____ of the _____

If you fail to submit to the test I have requested of you, your privilege to operate a motor vehicle will be suspended for a period of one (1) year for a first refusal, or eighteen (18) months if your privilege has been previously suspended as a result of a refusal to submit to a lawful test of your breath, urine or blood. Additionally, if you refuse to submit to the test I have requested of you and if your driving privilege has been previously suspended for a prior refusal to submit to a lawful test of your breath, urine or blood, you will be committing a misdemeanor. Refusal to submit to the test I have requested of you is admissible into evidence in any criminal proceeding.

SUBJECT'S SIGNATURE: (X) _____

CONSTITUTIONAL WARNINGS

I AM REQUIRED TO WARN YOU BEFORE YOU MAKE ANY STATEMENTS THAT YOU HAVE THE FOLLOWING RIGHTS:

1. You have the right to remain silent and not answer any questions.
2. Any statement must be freely and voluntarily given.
3. You have the right to the presence of a lawyer of your choice before you make any statement and during any questioning.
4. If you cannot afford a lawyer, you are entitled to the presence of a court appointed lawyer before you make any statements and during any questioning.
5. If at any time during the interview you do not wish to answer any questions, you are privileged to remain silent.
6. I can make no threats or promises to induce you to make a statement. This must be of your own free will.
7. Any statement can and will be used against you in a court of law.

SUSPECT'S SIGNATURE: (X) _____

SUBJECT: Rigdon, Melinda E. CASE NUMBER: FWC S2 10 FF 10477

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

I AM NOW GOING TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS. WITH THESE RIGHTS IN MIND, YOU MAY ANSWER SOME OF, ALL OF, OR NONE OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AS YOU LIKE.

WERE YOU OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE AT THE TIME OF THE STOP/ACCIDENT? Yes

WHERE WERE YOU GOING? Home

WHAT STREET OR HIGHWAY WERE YOU ON? 180th

DIRECTION OF TRAVEL? Don't know WHERE DID YOU START? Kokomos

WHAT TIME DID YOU START? 11:00 am WHAT TIME IS IT NOW? 5:30

WHAT IS TODAY'S DATE? April 17 - 18 WHAT DAY OF THE WEEK IS IT? Sunday

WHAT COUNTY AND CITY ARE YOU IN NOW? West Palm beach Florida

WHEN DID YOU LAST EAT? 1:00 pm WHAT DID YOU EAT? Hamburger

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING FOR THE LAST THREE HOURS? At Kokomos Drinking home and now here

HOW MUCH DO YOU WEIGH? 190 lbs HAVE YOU BEEN DRINKING? 2 drinks WHAT? Bloody Mary's

HOW MUCH? 2 WHERE? Kokomos WITH WHOM? Michel and Adrian

WHEN DID YOU HAVE YOUR FIRST DRINK? 11:00 am AND YOUR LAST DRINK? 12:30

HOW DID YOU CONSUME YOUR LAST TWO DRINKS? Stew 3 Cup

CAN YOU FEEL THE EFFECTS OF THE ALCOHOL? Yes ARE YOU UNDER THE INFLUENCE? No

HAVE YOU CONSUMED ANY ALCOHOL SINCE THE ACCIDENT? _____ HOW MUCH? _____

WHAT? _____ WHERE? _____ WHEN? _____

WHAT LINE OF WORK ARE YOU IN? Health Care WHEN DID YOU LAST WORK? Friday

DO YOU HAVE ANY PHYSICAL DEFECTS OR INJURIES? No WHAT? _____

ARE YOU SICK OR INJURED? No WHAT'S WRONG? _____

DO YOU LIMP? No DID YOU RECEIVE A BUMP ON THE HEAD RECENTLY? No

WERE YOU IN AN ACCIDENT TODAY? _____

HAVE YOU TAKEN ANY DRUGS OR SMOKED ANY MARIJUANA TODAY? No WHEN? _____

HAVE YOU SEEN A DOCTOR OR DENTIST TODAY? No WHO? _____ WHY? _____

ARE YOU TAKING ANY PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES? Yes WHAT? High blood pres. WHEN? 9:30 am

DO YOU HAVE:

EPILEPSY?	<u>No</u>
GLASS EYE?	<u>_____</u>
FALSE TEETH?	<u>_____</u>
EAR INFECTION?	<u>_____</u>
INNER EAR TROUBLE?	<u>_____</u>
DIABETES?	<u>No</u>

DO YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS WITH YOUR EYES THAT ARE NOT CORRECTED BY GLASSES? No

DO YOU TAKE INSULIN? No IF SO, WHEN WAS YOUR LAST INJECTION? _____

HAVE YOU EVER HAD A DRIVER'S LICENSE IN ANY OTHER STATE? No WHERE? _____

INTERVIEWER: OFC. DeFeo N759

WHITE - STATE ATTY. YELLOW - DHSMV PINK - CENTRAL RECORDS GOLD - JAIL

SUBJECT: _____ CASE NUMBER: _____

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

I AM NOW GOING TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS. WITH THESE RIGHTS IN MIND, YOU MAY ANSWER SOME OF, ALL OF, OR NONE OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AS YOU LIKE.

WERE YOU OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE AT THE TIME OF THE STOP/ACCIDENT? yes

WHERE WERE YOU GOING? _____

WHAT STREET OR HIGHWAY WERE YOU ON? _____

DIRECTION OF TRAVEL? _____ WHERE DID YOU START? _____

WHAT TIME DID YOU START? _____ WHAT TIME IS IT NOW? _____

WHAT IS TODAY'S DATE? _____ WHAT DAY OF THE WEEK IS IT? _____

WHAT COUNTY AND CITY ARE YOU IN NOW? _____

WHEN DID YOU LAST EAT? _____ WHAT DID YOU EAT? _____

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING FOR THE LAST THREE HOURS? _____

HOW MUCH DO YOU WEIGH? _____ HAVE YOU BEEN DRINKING? _____ WHAT? _____

HOW MUCH? _____ WHERE? _____ WITH WHOM? _____

WHEN DID YOU HAVE YOUR FIRST DRINK? _____ AND YOUR LAST DRINK? _____

HOW DID YOU CONSUME YOUR LAST TWO DRINKS? _____

CAN YOU FEEL THE EFFECTS OF THE ALCOHOL? _____ ARE YOU UNDER THE INFLUENCE? _____

HAVE YOU CONSUMED ANY ALCOHOL SINCE THE ACCIDENT? _____ HOW MUCH? _____

WHAT? _____ WHERE? _____ WHEN? _____

WHAT LINE OF WORK ARE YOU IN? _____ WHEN DID YOU LAST WORK? _____

DO YOU HAVE ANY PHYSICAL DEFECTS OR INJURIES? _____ WHAT? _____

ARE YOU SICK OR INJURED? _____ WHAT'S WRONG? _____

DO YOU LIMP? _____ DID YOU RECEIVE A BUMP ON THE HEAD RECENTLY? _____

WERE YOU IN AN ACCIDENT TODAY? _____

HAVE YOU TAKEN ANY DRUGS OR SMOKED ANY MARIJUANA TODAY? _____ WHEN? _____

HAVE YOU SEEN A DOCTOR OR DENTIST TODAY? _____ WHO? _____ WHY? _____

ARE YOU TAKING ANY PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES? _____ WHAT? _____ WHEN? _____

DO YOU HAVE:

EPILEPSY? _____

GLASS EYE? _____

FALSE TEETH? _____

EAR INFECTION? _____

INNER EAR TROUBLE? _____

DIABETES? _____

DO YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS WITH YOUR EYES THAT ARE NOT CORRECTED BY GLASSES? _____

DO YOU TAKE INSULIN? _____ IF SO, WHEN WAS YOUR LAST INJECTION? _____

HAVE YOU EVER HAD A DRIVER'S LICENSE IN ANY OTHER STATE? _____ WHERE? _____

INTERVIEWER: CFC. RFE. N754

WHITE - STATE ATTY.

YELLOW - DHSMV

PINK - CENTRAL RECORDS

GOLD - JAIL



**PALM BEACH COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**
Florida State Statute Exemption Sheet

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office – Arrests Only

	X	Florida State Statute	Description	Page Number(s)
L/E Exemptions	<input type="checkbox"/>	119.071(2)(d)	Surveillance techniques, procedures and personnel; inventory of law enforcement resources, policies or plans pertaining to mobilization deployment or tactical operations.	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	943.053, 943.0525	NCIC/FCIC/FBI and in-state FDLE/DOC.	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	119.071(4)(c)	Undercover personnel.	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	119.071(2)(f)	Confidential informants (CIs).	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	119.071(2)(e)	Confession.	
Public Info. Exemptions	<input type="checkbox"/>	985.04(1)	Juvenile offender records.	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	119.071(h)(i)	Assets of a crime victim.	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	395.3025(7)(a), 456.057(7)(a)	Medical information.	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	394.4615(7)	Mental health information.	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	119.071(4)(d)(2)(a)	Home address, telephone, Social Security number, date of birth, or photos of active/former LE personnel, spouses, and children.	
Florida Rules of Judicial Administration 2.420 (Rule of 23)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(iii) 119.0714(1)(i)-(j), (2)(a)-(e)	Social Security, bank account, charge, debit, and credit card numbers.	2
	<input type="checkbox"/>	(viii) 394.4615(7)	Clinical records under the Baker Act.	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	(xii) 741.30(3)(b)	The victim's address in a domestic violence action on petitioner's request.	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	(xiii) 119.071(2)(h), 119.0714(1)(h)	Protected information regarding victims of child abuse or sexual offenses.	
	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		Other:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>		Other:	

REVIEW COMPLETED BY

Booking Number: 2021009412

Date: 04/19/2021

Specialist Name/ID: C. Denzel/8691



Incident Summary Report

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
3440 S.E. 19TH AVE.
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL. 33316

Report Date / Time 4/18/2021 6:24:55 PM	Report Number ISR093720 (01)	Report Case/CAD Number FWCS21OFF010477 / FWCS21CAD019156	Reporting Officer Rank / ID OFFICER / WN759	Reporting Officer Name DEFEO, P
Originating Agency ORI FL0508000	Reported to Agency Date	Occur Date Range 04/18/2021 15:26:17 -	Jurisdiction Other	Status: Clearance: CLEARED BY ARREST
Offense Description S1 DUI - VEHICLE				

LOCATION(S)

County PALM BEACH	Location Type INCIDENT LOCATION	Location Description 180TH AVE AND VALENCIA BLVD						
Street Number	Street 180TH AVE N	Apt/Lot/Bldg	City LOXAHATCHEE	State FL	Zip Code 33470	Phone Number	Ext.	

INVESTIGATION

Was body camera used?	Yes
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Person: DEFENDANT

First Name MELINDA	Middle Name JEAN	Last Name RIGDON	Suffix	Race WHITE	Sex FEMALE	Height 5'05"	Weight 190	Hair BLONDE	Eyes
MNI # FWC21MNI019067	SSN [REDACTED]	Date of Birth 11/09/1976	Age 44	ID Type E	Drivers License or other ID R235550769090	State FL	OCA / Agency ID		
Place of Birth:		, , USA							
Addresses • RESIDENCE / 18763 HAMLIN BLVD, FL 33470 /									

Charge: STATE STATUTE

Counts 1	Charge 316.193(1)(a)	Arrest Offense Code Description DUI-UNLAW BLD ALCH
Charge Degree FIRST DEGREE	Charge Level MISDEMEANOR	General Offense Code
Charge Description REFUSAL TO SUBMIT TO BREATH TEST		

Charge: STATE STATUTE


Counts 1	Charge 316.193(1)(a)	Arrest Offense Code Description DUI-UNLAW BLD ALCH
Charge Degree FIRST DEGREE	Charge Level MISDEMEANOR	General Offense Code
Charge Description DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE - ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, ANY CHEMICAL SUBSTANCE OR ANY SUBSTANCE CONTROLLED AND THE PERSON'S NORMAL FACULTIES ARE IMPAIRED		

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Originating Agency ORI FL0508000	Reported to Agency Date	Occur Date Range 04/18/2021 15:26:17 -	Jurisdiction Other	Status: Clearance: CLEARED BY ARREST
Offense Description S1 DUI - VEHICLE				

Vehicle: USED IN CRIME

Year 2014	Make DODG	Model	Style VN	Color White	State FL	License Plate # 105NKS	Tag Expiration 08/20/2021	VIN 2C4RDGCG9ER121927
Vehicle Owner Type OTHER	Vehicle Value (\$)	<input type="checkbox"/> CMV <input type="checkbox"/> HAZMAT	DOT Number		Placard Hazardous Material #		Placard Hazard Class #	
Vehicle Owner		Vehicle Released to Person				Vehicle Released by Officer		

Narrative

Narrative Date/Time 4/21/2021 5:59:57 PM		Narrative Synopsis	
Reporting Officer DEFEO, P		Officer Rank OFFICER	Officer ID No WN759
Officer Signature 		Officer Org/Unit FWCSISO REGION A/PALM BEACH	
		Officer Agency FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION	

I, Officer Defeo, of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), was on patrol in my marked patrol truck. I was traveling north on 180th Ave N in Loxahatchee, County of Palm Beach, when I observed 3 vehicles stopped at the stop sign on 180th Ave. N and Valencia Blvd. The vehicles stayed stopped as I approached them. I then made a right-hand turn onto Valencia Blvd and the last vehicle (105NKS) flagged me down. The driver stated the White van in front of him drove into oncoming lanes of traffic, almost getting into several accidents. He also said the driver drove off the road onto several driveways coming down Valencia Blvd.

The two front vehicles pulled onto 180th Ave and stopped. I turned my patrol truck around, pulled behind the white van and activated my blue lights. I exited the vehicle and approached the driver side window to conduct a welfare check of the driver to ensure she was not having some sort of medical episode. As I began speaking with the operator, Melinda J. Rigdon, I noticed that her speech was severely slurred. I then asked her for her driver license, registration, and insurance at which point I detected a moderate smell of an alcoholic beverage coming from her breath. As Rigdon was searching for the requested items, she was fumbling carelessly through her pocketbook, at one point she could not get her zipper open and then handed it to me to open it for her. She continued to fumble around and could not find her driver licenses.

I had Rigdon stay seated in her vehicle while I requested a Palm Beach Sheriff's Office (PBSO) D.U.I. unit. Dispatch notified me that PBSO did not have a unit available, so I began a D.U.I. investigation.

Based on the observed signs of impairment and the statements from independent witnesses I requested Rigdon exit the vehicle to conduct standardized field sobriety tasks. She complied as she walked to the rear of my

Report Date / Time 4/18/2021 6:24:55 PM	Report Number ISR093720 (01)	Report Case/CAD Number FWCS21OFF010477 / FWCS21CAD019156	Reporting Officer Rank / ID OFFICER / WN759	Reporting Officer Name DEFEO, P
Originating Agency ORI FL0508000	Reported to Agency Date	Occur Date Range 04/18/2021 15:26:17 -	Jurisdiction Other	Status: Clearance: CLEARED BY ARREST
Offense Description S1 DUI - VEHICLE				

patrol truck, she was unsteady on her feet. The task conducted, and the observations made are listed below.

Pre-Task Questions:

Do you have any physical disability or defect: NO

Do you have any defects with your eyes: NO

Are you sick or injured: NO

Are you currently under the care of a doctor or dentist: NO

Are you taking any medications or drugs: YES (high blood pressure)

Task conducted:

Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN), Finger to Nose, and One Leg Stand.

HGN

(equal pupil size / equal tracking / no resting nystagmus)

Lack of smooth pursuit: Both eyes

Distinct and sustained nystagmus at max deviation: Both eyes

Onset prior to 45 degrees: Both eyes

Finger to nose

Unable to follow instructions and moved during instruction.

Did not initially close eyes, opened eyes during task, and moved head during task (1''+)

LEFT: wrong finger, hesitated, did not bring down

RIGHT:

LEFT: did not bring down

RIGHT: did not bring down

RIGHT: searched for nose, did not use fingertip, did not bring down

LEFT: did not use fingertip, did not bring down


One leg stand

Swayed while balancing, used arms to balance (6''+), puts foot down numerous times, miss counted

Based on my observations and Rigdon's poor performance on the field sobriety tasks, Rigdon was placed under arrest for driving under the influence while her normal faculties were impaired. Once at the BAT a twenty-minute observation was conducted and Rigdon was asked to provide a sample of her breath as required by law. She refused.

Narrative: INITIAL

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Narrative Date/Time 4/21/2021 6:59:13 PM		Narrative Synopsis		
Reporting Officer DEFEO, P		Officer Rank OFFICER	Officer ID No WN759	Officer Org/Unit FWCSISO REGION AIPALM BEACH
Officer Signature 		Officer Agency FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION		

BODY CAMERA USED

- I. **WHAT:** DUI normal faculties impaired and refusal to submit to breath test
- II. **WHEN:** 04/18/2021 at approximately 1600 hours
- III. **WHERE:** 180th Ave N. and Valencia Blvd., Loxahatchee, County of Palm Beach
- IV. **WHO:** Melinda Jean Rigdon 11/09/1976
- V. **Other information Relating to BUI**
The weather was clear. Rigdon was the operator and sole occupant of the vehicle.

VI. DETAILS OF DUI

I, Officer Defeo, of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), was on patrol in my marked patrol truck. I was traveling north on 180th Ave N in Loxahatchee, County of Palm Beach, when I observed 3 vehicles stopped at the stop sign on 180th Ave. N and Valencia Blvd. The vehicles stayed stopped as I approached them. I then made a right-hand turn onto Valencia Blvd and the last vehicle (105NKS) flagged me down. The driver stated the White van in front of him drove into oncoming lanes of traffic, almost getting into several accidents. He also said the driver drove off the road onto several driveways coming down Valencia Blvd.

The two front vehicles pulled onto 180th Ave and stopped. I turned my patrol truck around, pulled behind the white van and activated my blue lights. I exited the vehicle and approached the driver side window to conduct a welfare check of the driver to ensure she was not having some sort of medical episode. As I began speaking with the operator, Melinda J. Rigdon, I noticed her speech was severely slurred. I then asked her for her driver license, registration, and insurance at which point I detected a moderate smell of an alcoholic beverage coming from her breath. As Rigdon was searching for the requested items, she was fumbling carelessly through her pocketbook, at one point she could not get her zipper open and then handed it to me to open it for her. She continued to fumble around and could not find her driver licenses. I asked Rigdon where she was coming from and she stated Brass Ring. I asked her if she had anything to drink and she said two drink. When asked of what she stated wine.

I had Rigdon stay seated in her vehicle while I requested a Palm Beach Sheriff's Office (PBSO) D.U.I.

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unit. Dispatch notified me PBSO did not have a unit available, so I began a D.U.I. investigation.

Based on the observed signs of impairment and the statements from independent witnesses I requested Rigdon exit the vehicle to conduct standardized field sobriety tasks. She complied and as she walked to the rear of my patrol truck, she was unsteady on her feet. The task conducted, and the observations made are listed below.

STANDARDIZED FIELD SOBRIETY TASKS

General Instructions:

Rigdon was read the instructions for each task she performed, and they were demonstrated to her. She stated she understood how to complete each task.

Pre - Task Questions and responses:

Do you have any physical disability or defect: NO

Do you have any defects with your eyes: NO

Are you sick or injured: NO

Are you currently under the care of a doctor or dentist: NO

Are you taking any medications or drugs: YES (high blood pressure)

Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus:

(equal pupil size / equal tracking / no resting nystagmus)

Lack of smooth pursuit: Both eyes

Distinct and sustained nystagmus at max deviation: Both eyes

Onset prior to 45 degrees: Both eyes

Finger to Nose:

Instruction Stage:

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Unable to follow instructions and moved during instruction.

Performance Stage:

Did not initially close eyes, opened eyes during task, and moved head during task (1" +)

LEFT: wrong finger, hesitated, did not bring down

RIGHT:

LEFT: did not bring down

RIGHT: did not bring down

RIGHT: searched for nose, did not use fingertip, did not bring down

LEFT: did not use fingertip, did not bring down

One Leg Stand:

Swayed while balancing

Used arms to balance (6" +)

Puts foot down numerous times

Miss counted

Arrest of Operator

Based on my observations and Rigdon's poor performance on the field sobriety tasks, Rigdon was placed under arrest for driving under the influence while her normal faculties were impaired. Once at the BAT a twenty-minute observation was conducted and Rigdon was asked to provide a sample of her breath as required by law. She refused. Rigdon was read implied consent on camera, as well as Miranda warnings. She still refused to provide a lawful test of her breath.

Disposition of Operator and Vehicle

The vehicle was turned over to her cousin, at the scene, at Rigdon's request. When asked at the jail about where she was coming from and what she had to drink, Rigdon gave different answers than what she stated at the scene. She responded with a location of Kokomo's and she had been drinking Bloody Mary's. Her previous answers were the Brass Ring and Wine. Rigdon was turned over to PBSO jail staff without incident and charged with statute 316.193(1)(a) and 316.1939(1)(a). Please see body worn camera for a complete viewing of this incident.

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Officer: Approving Supervisor (Supplement 01)

Officer Name FILLIP, JAMES F	Officer Rank LIEUTENANT	Officer ID No WN214	Officer Agency FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Approval Date / Time 4/21/2021 7:35:31 PM	Officer Signature <i>[Signature]</i>		

RELATED REPORT(S)

Report Name	Report Number / Description
DUI Citation	A2VOWEE
Traffic Warning / Faulty Equipment	TW78897
Uniform Traffic Citation	A87ELIE

Sup #	Officer Name Rank / ID #	Involvement On Report / Reporting Role	Officer Agency Org/Unit
01	DEFEO, P OFFICER WN759	REPORTING OFFICER	FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FWCSISO REGION AIPALM BEACH
01	FILLIP, JAMES F LIEUTENANT WN214	APPROVING SUPERVISOR	FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FWCSISO REGION AIPALM BEACH

The undersigned certifies and swears that he/she has just and reasonable grounds to believe that the above named Defendant, committed violation(s), of law, on the below date(s) and time(s), as listed in the narratives associated with this report:

Officer: Reporting Officer (Supplement01)

Officer Name DEFEO, P	Office Rank OFFICER	Officer ID No WN759	Sworn and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority This the _____ day of _____, DEPUTY OF THE COURT, NOTARY OR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
Officer Agency FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION			
Officer Signature <i>[Signature]</i>			



PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
DUI TESTING FACILITY
INFORMATION SHEET

~~1450~~ CASE # 21056762 PBSO ZONE 17-11

AGENCY CASE # FWC5210FF10477 CRASH CASE # _____

TIME OF STOP/CRASH 1527 DATE 4/18/2021 DAY Sunday

SUBJECT'S NAME Melinda J Rigdon RACE W SEX F

HGT 5' 05 WGT 190 DOB 11/09/1976

LOCATION 180th Ave N. # 3 Valencia Blvd Loxahatchee FL

ARRESTING OFFICER'S NAME & ID P. Defeo N759 AGENCY FWC

DIVISION: _____

NOTIFIED BY COMMO yes

ARRIVAL AT FACILITY 1645

Arrest Time 1600

BREATH RESULTS:

1. **REFUSED**
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

TESTING OFFICER'S ID 3184

1876 Hamilton Blvd
LOX FL
Blonde, green

DL# R235-550-76-909-0

TESTING FACILITY TASK REPORT

AGENCY: FWC

SUBJECT: RIGDON, MELINDA J

CASE NUMBER: 21056762

DATE: Apr 18, 2021

VIDEO DVD NUMBER: N/A

BEGINNING TIME: 1711

ENDING TIME: 1721

BREATH TESTS RESULTS: 1) Refused TIME 1714 A.M. ☐ P.M. ☒ 2) TIME A.M. ☐ P.M. ☐
3) TIME A.M. ☐ P.M. ☐ 4) TIME A.M. ☐ P.M. ☐

BREATH OPERATOR: S. Owen #3184

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN: J. Karlecke #6467

TESTING OFFICER'S OBSERVATIONS

SPEECH:

ATTITUDE: CO-OPERATIVE, SAID SHE WAS NOT GOING TO BLOW

CLOTHING: TENNIS SHOES, PURPLE DRESS

MEDICAL CONDITIONS: HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

MEDICATIONS: HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE MEDS

OTHER:

D/L #R25-550-76-909-O FL (NOT CARRIED)

COMMENTS:

A/O AND DEFENDANT RIVED AT 1645 HOURS. A/O OBSERVED 20 MINUTES. A/O REQUESTED BREATH TEST, DEFENDANT REFUSED. A/O READ I/C, DEFENDANT UNDERSTOOD, STILL REFUSED. A/O READ C/W, DEFENDANT UNDERSTOOD RIGHTS AND ANSWERED Q & A. ATE A HAMBURGER AT 1 P.M. ADMITTED DRINKING TWO BLOODY MARYS BETWEEN 11 A.M AND 12:30 P.M. COULD FEEL EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL BUT NOT UNDER INFLUENCE. TOOK MEDS AT 9:30 AM. TODAY