



Richard R. Schmidt
Sheriff

Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

NEWS RELEASE

Scott Stiff
Public Information Officer
Cell: 414-840-3185
Phone: 414-278-4716
scott.stiff@milwaukeecountywi.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Deputies Arrest Woman for OWI -2nd with 2 Children in Vehicle



Joctavia T. Salis

Milwaukee, WI – Saturday, March 24, 2018, at 4:51 p.m., deputies were dispatched to a crash southbound STH 145 at 68th Street. Upon arrival, deputies observed that the crash involved just one vehicle and that several traffic signs were knocked down. The driver told deputies that while entering the freeway another vehicle merged in front of her causing her to lose control of her vehicle. Deputies observed two young children, ages 5 and 8, in the vehicle. The driver indicated that the children were her nephews. The children were not injured and were subsequently turned over to their mother who was not in the vehicle at that time.

The driver, Joctavia T. Sallis, age 31, from Milwaukee, initially complained of neck pain, but refused medical attention from the Milwaukee Fire Department. Sallis failed the Standard Field Sobriety tests and showed obvious signs of alcohol impairment. She subsequently arrested for OWI -2nd with a minor under 16, which is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by up to 6 months in jail.

Sallis was transported to a local hospital for the purposes of obtaining a legal blood draw, which she refused. Deputies obtained a search warrant and a legal blood draw was completed.

Sallis also had an outstanding warrant out of the City of New Berlin for Contempt of Court related to her previous OWI.

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Statement from Sheriff Schmidt: “Demolishing a car while driving drunk with 2 young children in the car is reprehensible and ILLEGAL behavior. This repeat offender, like many others, did not fear the current laws. Maybe it’s time to stiffen the penalties to get drunk drivers to think twice before endangering others. What do you think? Let your legislators know.”

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