

The Star-Ledger Archive

COPYRIGHT © The Star-Ledger 1998

Date: 1998/12/01 Tuesday Page: 044 Section: UNION Edition: UNION Size: 280 words

## Officer pleads innocent to eluding Rahway police

By Kinga Borondy

Star-Ledger Staff

A Newark police sergeant who once formed part of the department's elite professional standards unit was arraigned in Superior Court in Union County yesterday on eluding and assault charges filed against him by Rahway police in May.

Sgt. Irving Bradley, 41, has been accused of driving drunk, leading Rahway police on a chase and kicking police officers who approached him.

Bradley pleaded not guilty yesterday morning through his attorney, Vincent Scoca. He was suspended without pay from the police force before Thanksgiving, said Sgt. Derek Glenn, a spokesman for the Newark police.

Police officials declined additional comment, saying only that departmental policy mandates the suspension of all indicted employees.

Bradley was indicted Oct. 15 on charges of second-degree eluding, third-degree aggravated assault and fourth-degree resisting arrest, said Union County Assistant Prosecutor Thomas Isenhour. The most severe offense, that of second-degree eluding, carries a maximum 10-year state prison sentence, Isenhour said.

The Newark officer was arrested May 30 on drunken driving and assault charges and accused of leading Rahway police on a chase after he was spotted slumped behind the wheel of his car on a city street, Union County officials have said. The engine was running when police approached the vehicle to determine if the driver was having difficulties. Officials said in May that Bradley fled the scene, swerving down the middle of the road before coming to a stop in front of his Rahway home. He was arrested after a foot chase during which he kicked the officers who attempted to detain him, authorities said.