**TOMS RIVER**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

December 31, 2018

**Suspicious Package**

At approximately 1:40 PM on Monday, December 31st, Toms River Police responded to the Rite Aid located at 1726 Rt. 37 in reference to a suspicious package. Upon arrival, employees advised  the responding officers that they opened up a mail package that was delivered to the store and located a newspaper inside. The employees stated that they believed that they may have been exposed to an unknown powder like substance that was either on the newspaper or inside the box.  Preliminary inspection of the package by the New Jersey State Police HAZMAT Unit and the Berkeley Township HAZMAT  Unit deemed the package to be  safe.  Two Rite Aid  employees were transported to Community Medical Center out of an abundance of caution.

*The media and the public are reminded that criminal charges are accusations only. Every criminal defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in court.*