



Out-of-state cigarettes, cigars seized from Linden deli

Written by
Staff Report August 20, 2013

LINDEN — The manager of a South Wood Avenue deli was arrested and cartons of out-of-state cigarettes, as well as cigars, tobacco and more than \$9,000 in cash, was seized following a recent state Department of the Treasury raid.

Christopher J. Santarelli, state Department of the Treasury deputy director of communications, said Kavel Patel, 37, manager of GK Deli, 1131 S. Wood Ave., was arrested and charged with possession of cigarettes without the proper stamp, failure to dealing with property licensed vendors registered with the Division of Taxation and failure to maintain books and records for out-of-state cigarettes, following an Aug. 9 raid.

Patel was released on his own recognizance.

The state treasury department's Office of Criminal Investigation in the Division of Taxation seized 117.6 cartons of Virginia-stamped cigarettes, contraband tobacco, 6,000 cigars and \$9,025 in cash. Also seized from Patel's business and apartment locations was \$1,000 in cash.

As part of the raid that included other locations, a total of 58,052 cigars with no tobacco product tax paid, 311 packages of tobacco bags, 122.4 cartons of Virginia-stamped cigarettes and 1.3 cartons of Delaware-stamped cigarettes were seized.