

Members of Newark's Vice Squad arrested a 24-year-old store clerk for selling loose cigarettes and possession of 190 Oxycodone pills. The incident occurred in the city's north ward at 265 Park Avenue.

On Friday, September 23 at 8:30pm, vice detectives were advised that the clerk at the Del Nitis Grocery Store was involved in the illegal sale of loose cigarettes. A plain clothed detective later entered the establishment and asked the clerk for two "loosies," a term used in the street referring to loose cigarettes. The clerk, later identified as Vianelly Gavilan, sold the undercover the cigarettes; the officer exited the store.

Moments later, vice detectives re-entered the store and placed the suspect under arrest. Detectives recovered almost five cartons of cigarettes and discovered three bottles of Oxycodone with the cigarettes.

Gavilan was transported to the precinct and charged with the violation of several of the state's narcotics laws and the illegal sale of cigarettes.

"Citizens are taking every advantage of the city's tip line and other anonymous means of alerting the police of crime no matter how major or minor the infraction. This is a great partnership and I fully support and encourage its continuance. Working together is the key to ridding our city of those who are involved in felonious activity," said Police Director Samuel DeMaio.

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