

New York woman is charged with fabricating story of her own abduction after police spend 'six figures' on investigation and chase down 400 leads

**Rachael Mattice, 24, was arrested and charged with false reporting
Mattice had been reported missing on June 23 in Wells, New York
Police said Mattice fabricated the story of her abduction after a witness came forward and said she made it all up**

Mattice told police she was kidnapped and assaulted by a strange man

She said she had been held hostage for two weeks inside a wood shed

Her disappearance promoted massive police search that investigators said cost 'well into the six figures' and involved hunting down nearly 400 leads

She was charged with misdemeanor and released until her court date

By [VALERIE EDWARDS FOR DAILYMAIL.COM](#)

PUBLISHED: 20:46, 23 July 2016 | UPDATED: 01:08, 24 July 2016

A New York woman who was purportedly missing for two weeks has been arrested for fabricating the story of her abduction.

Rachael Mattice, was charged with false reporting by New York State Police and Hamilton County officials, according to the [New York Daily News](#).

Police said the extensive search for Mattice, who was reported missing on June 23, cost authorities 'well into the six figures' and involved hunting down nearly 400 leads.

Authorities found out about Mattice's fabricated story when a witness came forward and said Mattice made it all up.

William Keeler, Troop G commander, said in a press conference that 'nothing Mattice said happened. It's all made up.'

Last week, a man came forward and told police he gave Mattice a ride to a camp in Canada Lake, New York, which belonged to a relative of her boyfriend, according to the Daily News.

Two other people were able to confirm the man's account and police later found the evidence didn't add up.

Mattice was charged with a misdemeanor and released until her court date in Mayfield Court on August 9.



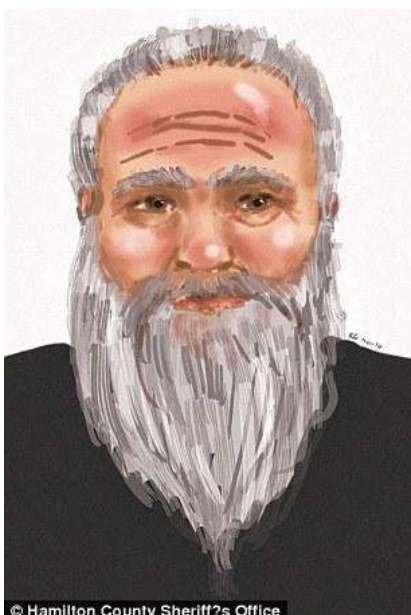
Rachael Mattice, who had been missing for two weeks has been arrested for fabricating the story of her abduction. She was charged with false reporting by New York State Police and Hamilton County officials



Police said the extensive search for Mattice, who was reported missing on June 23, cost authorities 'well into the six figures' and involved hunting down nearly 400 leads. Mattice was last seen in downtown Wells (above, file photo), New York state before she disappeared

When Mattice returned to her parents' home on July 6, two weeks later after being abducted, she told police the fabricated story.

She said that she had been kidnapped by a strange man who held her hostage for two weeks inside a wood shed.





Mattice told police that she had been kidnapped by a strange man who held her hostage for two weeks inside a wood shed. She claimed that her alleged kidnapper was white, six-feet tall with brown eyes, gray hair and a full beard. Police used the sketch (left) of the man while they followed leads in the case
The 24-year-old said she was kidnapped while on a camping trip in Hamilton County.

She claimed that she was repeatedly assaulted by a man who was in his late 50s, according to [ABC 10](#).

Mattice told police that her alleged kidnapper was white, six-feet tall with brown eyes, gray hair and a full beard.

She also said the man weighed between 200 to 250 pounds.

Police used the sketch of the man while they followed leads in the case.

Initial reports said that Mattice had managed to escape her captor by jumping out of a car and running to her mother's home.

But authorities said she told them the man brought her home and dropped her off a block from her mother's home.

Police said at the time Mattice had no injuries when she returned home.

Mattice worked as a home healthcare aide, her family said, and had moved to the camp for work.



While Mattice was missing her family reached out to singer Shania Twain (pictured), who Mattice loves, to help spread the news of her disappearance



Shania Twain 
@ShaniaTwain

 Follow

I've heard the story of Rachael Mattice & urge anyone with information to come forward to the police & help her return to her family. (1/2)

 Twitter



Shania Twain 
@ShaniaTwain

 Follow

Thinking of you Rachael. (2/2)

 Twitter

Shania Twain tweeted on June 30, urging anyone with information about Mattice to come forward

Before heading into the campsite, an area which has no cell phone service, she sent her mother a message.

'She said, 'I'm at the bottom of the hill. Goodnight and I love you',' Wendy Mattice told Fox News.

That was the last time anyone heard from her before she went missing.

Her phone, purse and car was reportedly found at the campsite when her father went to check on her.

While Mattice was missing her family reached out to singer Shania Twain, who Mattice loves, to help spread the news of her disappearance.

On June 30, the country music singer tweeted: 'I've heard the story of Rachael Mattice & urge anyone with information to come forward to the police & help her return to her family.'

She added: 'Thinking of you Rachael.'

A \$2,000 reward had been offered for information on her whereabouts.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3704980/New-York-woman-charged-fabricating-story-abduction-police-spent-six-figures-investigation-chased-400-leads.html>