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Three Arrested for Prostitution in Hopewell Township, Over \$20,000 Seized

TRENTON – Acting Mercer County Prosecutor Angelo J. Onofri and Hopewell Township Police Chief Lance Maloney reported the Mercer County Narcotics Task Force concluded a two-week undercover investigation yesterday with three arrests and the seizure of \$20,796.

On Thursday, May 28, 2015, officers executed search warrants at Bala Bala Massage, 2479 Pennington Avenue, Hopewell Township. Onofri stated that during the course of the investigation, undercover officers were solicited for sex by three women working at the establishment. At approximately 3:48 p.m. yesterday, officers executed the search warrants for the premises and located four females inside. Officers seized bank records and \$20,796.00.

Officers with the prosecutor's office, the county sheriff's office, the Hopewell Township, Hamilton, Lawrence and Trenton police departments, the New Jersey State Police and Department of Homeland Security I.C.E., under the command of Lt. Michael Novembre, conducted the investigation and made the arrests.

Three of the females were transported to Hopewell Township Police Department for further investigation and processing. The fourth was not charged. Once processing was completed, all three were charged with the below listed offenses and released on summonses pending future court proceedings:

Yu Zeng AKA "Angel", age 28, Flushing, NY is charged with Soliciting Prostitution, a disorderly persons offense.

Xiao Lan Xie AKA "Cindy", age 38, Queens, NY is charged with Soliciting Prostitution, a disorderly persons offense.

Feng Rong Chen, age 45, Queens, NY is charged with Promoting Prostitution, a third degree crime.

Despite having been charged, every defendant is presumed innocent until found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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