



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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**Motor Vehicle Stop by the Mercer County Narcotics Task Force and DEA
Results in Major Heroin Seizure**

WEST WINDSOR -- Mercer County Prosecutor Joseph L. Bocchini Jr. reported the Mercer County Narcotics Task Force and the Drug Enforcement Administration concluded an investigation last week with two arrests and the seizure of 510 grams of heroin.

Bocchini stated that on December 4, his office received information that an individual identified as Ramon Torres would be utilizing a Honda Odyssey to transport a large quantity of heroin through the Mercer County area to a destination in northern New Jersey. As a result of this information, members of the Mercer County Narcotics Task Force and the DEA set up a surveillance. At approximately 12:10 p.m., officers observed the vehicle and began to follow it. While on Route 1 in the area of I-95 northbound in Lawrence Township, the driver began to drive erratically. Officers executed a motor vehicle stop at approximately 12:30 p.m. on Route 1 northbound in West Windsor. Mercer County Prosecutor's Detective Joe Angarone then utilized his K9 partner, Bela, to conduct a drug sniff of the exterior of the vehicle. Bela gave a positive indication for the presence of narcotics at the rear of the vehicle, and a search warrant was applied for and granted.

A search of the vehicle revealed 510 grams of heroin in a rear driver side storage compartment. The Honda Odyssey was seized as drug proceeds. A bag of marijuana was retrieved from the passenger of the vehicle, Robert Quinones.

Torres, age 39, of Philadelphia, is charged with possession of heroin and possession of heroin with the intent to distribute. He was also issued motor vehicle citations. Torres is being held at the Mercer County Correction Center in lieu of \$200,000 cash or bond bail.

Quinones, age 46, of Philadelphia, is charged with possession of heroin, possession of heroin with the intent to distribute and possession of marijuana under 50 grams. He is being held at the Mercer County Correction Center in lieu of \$200,000 cash or bond bail.

Novembre said that, depending on how the heroin was distributed, it could be worth anywhere from \$35,000 to \$145,000.

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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