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Mercer County Narcotics Task Force Seizes \$280,000 in Heroin

TRENTON – Acting Mercer County Prosecutor Angelo J. Onofri reported the Mercer County Narcotics Task Force concluded a three-month investigation last week with three arrests and the seizure of cocaine, ketamine, marijuana and \$280,000 in heroin.

Onofri stated that at approximately 6:50 a.m. on Friday, September 25, officers with the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office, the Mercer County Sheriff's Office, the New Jersey State Police, the U.S. Marshals NY/NJ Regional Fugitive Task Force, and the Ewing, Hamilton, Lawrence, Trenton and West Windsor police, under the command of Lt. Mike Novembre, executed search warrants in Ewing and West Windsor townships.

The target of the investigation, Marque Johnson, was secured in his residence in the 3100 block of Birmingham Court, Ewing, along with Shakeeta Jones. A search of the residence revealed two digital scales, a black jacket with Kevlar lining and a small amount of marijuana. A search of Johnson revealed \$58 and a small amount of marijuana. A Pontiac seized at the address as drug proceeds contained \$1,160.

Two additional searches were conducted in connection with the investigation. On Blue Heron Way in West Windsor, 525 grams of raw heroin was found in the kitchen along with approximately 25 grams of powder cocaine, one vial of ketamine, \$16,000 in cash and a jacket with Kevlar lining. In the living room, 36 bricks and three bundles of heroin were found. A fully loaded .38 caliber revolver was found in the master bedroom and a money counter was located in the closet. Drug paraphernalia to cut and package heroin, including stamps, thousands of glassine envelopes, cutting agents, sifters, gloves, masks, a press and a grinder, was also discovered throughout the house.

Michelle Macklin was taken into custody at an apartment on Country Lane in Ewing. A search of the apartment revealed two digital scales and a small amount of marijuana.

A 2006 Mercedes utilized by Johnson during the investigation was located on Hazelhurst Avenue in Ewing. The vehicle was seized as drug proceeds.

Novembre said the estimated street value of the seized heroin is approximately \$280,800 and the value of the cocaine is approximately \$2,500.

Johnson, age 34, is charged with multiple counts of possession of a controlled dangerous substance, two counts of possession with the intent to distribute, two counts of possession with the intent to distribute within 1,000 feet of a school, maintaining a production facility, possession of a firearm while committing a narcotics offense, certain persons not to possess a weapon and possession of drug paraphernalia. His bail was set at \$300,000 cash or bond.

Macklin, age 24, is charged with possession of marijuana under 50 grams. Jones, age 29, is charged with possession of marijuana under 50 grams and possession of drug paraphernalia. Both were released pending future court proceedings.

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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