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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Mercer County Narcotics Task Force Arrests Two, Seizes \$16,000 in Cocaine**

**TRENTON** – Mercer County Prosecutor Joseph L. Bocchini Jr. announced that the Mercer County Narcotics Task Force, under the command of Lt. Mike Novembre, concluded a two month investigation this week with two arrests and the seizure of cocaine, marijuana and Xanax.

Bocchini stated that at approximately 7:30 am on Monday, July 7, members of the task force executed search warrants at three locations in the City of Trenton. During the execution of a search warrant at 228 Hamilton Avenue, Apartment 2A, task force members located approximately 7 grams of marijuana, Xanax pills and a digital scale in the kitchen. Prior to the execution of the search warrant by members of the prosecutor's office, the county sheriff's office, the New Jersey State Police, and the Hamilton, Lawrence, Robbinsville and Trenton police, **JUAN MORALES** was located outside the residence and detained without incident.

A search of Morales' silver Acura revealed \$8,131.00 in cash.

During the execution of a search warrant at 18 Ingleton Street, officers located approximately 110 grams of powder cocaine on a shelf in the basement landing. Also located in the basement was a hydraulic press utilized in the manufacturing process.

The narcotics task force also executed a search warrant at 537 Second Street, where officers encountered a front door fortified with a metal pole. Inside the residence, **ALEXANDRO RAMOS** was located and detained without incident. During the search, officers located 50 grams of powder cocaine in a canister in the kitchen, 5 grams of marijuana in a kitchen cabinet, a digital scale on a shelf in the kitchen, 40 grams of marijuana in the front bedroom nightstand, and cash totaling \$4,189.00.

Novembre said a total of 160 grams of cocaine was seized. The estimated street value of all the seized narcotics is over \$16,500.

**MORALES**, age 36, of Hamilton Avenue, Trenton, is charged with three counts of possession of a controlled dangerous substance, possession of a controlled dangerous substance with intent to

distribute, manufacturing a controlled dangerous substance, two counts of possession of a controlled dangerous substance with intent to distribute on or near a public facility, and possession of drug paraphernalia. Morales is being held at the Mercer County Corrections Center in lieu of \$200,000 bail.

**RAMOS**, age 42, of Second Street, Trenton, is charged with two counts of possession of a controlled dangerous substance, possession of a controlled dangerous substance with intent to distribute, manufacturing a controlled dangerous substance, two counts of possession of a controlled dangerous substance with intent to distribute on or near a public facility, maintaining fortified premises and possession of drug paraphernalia. Ramos is being held at the Mercer County Corrections Center in lieu of \$200,000 bail.

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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