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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 31, 2013

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Mercer County SIU Seizes Guns, Cash and Marijuana

TRENTON -- Mercer County Prosecutor Joseph L. Bocchini Jr. and Trenton Police Director Ralph Rivera announced that the merged Mercer County Special Investigations Unit (SIU) concluded an investigation on Wednesday with the seizure of three guns, more than a pound of marijuana, and more than \$6,000 in cash.

Bocchini stated that an approximately 6 a.m. Wednesday morning, officers with the prosecutor's office, the county sheriff's office, the New Jersey State Police TEAMS Unit, and the Ewing, Hamilton, Lawrence and Trenton police, under the command of Lt. Mike Novembre, executed search warrants the Breunig Avenue residence of Irwin McKnight. McKnight AKA Dread, the target of the investigation, was located inside the premises.

A search of the residence revealed approximately 1.25 pounds of marijuana, a sawed-off shotgun, a .38 caliber revolver, a digital scale, packaging material and \$200 in the living room. A second sawed-off shotgun was located in an upstairs bedroom, and \$6,406 and a small amount of marijuana was located in another bedroom.

Novembre said the estimated street value of the marijuana is \$5,500.

McKnight, age 31, is charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance, possession with the intent to distribute, possession with the intent to distribute within 500 feet of a park, possession with the intent to distribute within 1,000 feet of a school, possession of a weapon while committing a narcotics offense, two counts of possession of a prohibited weapon, and possession of drug paraphernalia. He is being held at the Mercer County Correction Center in lieu of \$75,000 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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