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Father and Son Indicted for False Swearing, Workers' Compensation Fraud

TRENTON – A Mercer County grand jury returned an indictment last week charging a Trenton police officer and his father with false swearing and workers' compensation fraud.

The indictment charges Trenton police officer Gaetano Ponticiello (DOB 10/20/70) and his father Filippo Ponticiello (DOB 2/9/48) with one count each of false swearing and workers' compensation fraud. Both are crimes of the fourth degree, carrying a maximum penalty of 18 months in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

It is alleged that, on February 23, 2009, both men made false statements under oath before workers' compensation Judge Renee C. Ricciardelli. According to the indictment, the false or misleading statements included a misclassification of employees for the purpose of evading the full payment of benefits or premiums.

Both men are scheduled to appear in Mercer County Superior Court on October 25. Assistant Prosecutor James Scott presented the case to the grand jury.

An indictment is merely an accusation. All persons charged are presumed innocent until found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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