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County Narcotics Task Force Seizes Heroin, Cocaine and Guns

Mercer County Prosecutor Joseph L. Bocchini Jr. announced that a month-long investigation led by his Special Investigations Unit (SIU), under the command of Lt. Mike Novembre, has resulted in two arrests, and the seizure of 170 decks of heroin, five grams of cocaine and two guns.

Bocchini stated that last Thursday, June 20, SIU officers along with the Mercer County Sheriff's Office, the Ewing, Hamilton, Lawrence and East Windsor police, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives executed search warrants at 633 Twin Rivers Drive North in East Windsor, NJ. At approximately 8:30 p.m., officers conducting surveillance of the location observed 45-year-old Eric Fox and another individual exit Fox's residence. Fox and the individual, identified as Barry Bersch, were detained without incident and the residence was searched.

A fully loaded Smith & Wesson .357 caliber revolver was located under the bed in a second floor bedroom. In a nightstand next to that bed were 64 decks of heroin. A 9 mm Beretta semi-automatic handgun was found in a basement safe along with ammunition and handgun holsters.

A search of Fox revealed 106 decks of heroin, approximately five grams of powder cocaine, a digital scale and \$16 in cash. A search of Bersch revealed a crack pipe, a plastic bag with cocaine residue and \$139 in cash.

Novembre stated that the approximate street value of the heroin is \$1,700 and the approximate street value of the cocaine is \$500.

Fox was charged with possession of heroin and cocaine, possession with the intent to distribute heroin and cocaine, possession with the intent to distribute within 1,000 feet of a school, two counts of possessing a firearm while committing a narcotics offense and possession

of drug paraphernalia. His remains in the Mercer County Correction Center in lieu of \$100,000 bail.

Bersch, 43, of Brockcreek Drive, Yardley, Pa., was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to the Hamilton Police Department because he had active arrest warrants out of Hamilton Township and the city of Trenton.

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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