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County Narcotics Task Force Seizes Cocaine, Heroin

TRENTON – The Mercer County Prosecutor's Office announced that a month-long investigation led by its Special Investigations Unit (SIU), under the command of Lt. Mike Novembre, has resulted in four arrests, and the seizure of powder and crack cocaine, and heroin.

At approximately 6 p.m. Thursday, February 28, SIU officers, the New Jersey State Police, the Mercer County Sheriff's Office and the Ewing, Hamilton, Lawrence and Trenton police departments executed search warrants at 1249 East State Street in Trenton. The target of the investigation, William Laster (DOB 2/14/57), threw a quantity of crack cocaine on the dining room floor by the basement doorway when he became aware of police presence. He was subsequently detained there. Five other individuals were located in the dining room area, three of whom were taken into custody on active warrants.

The following items were seized during a search of the residence: A total of 41 grams of crack cocaine, a total of 50 grams of powder cocaine, 11 decks of heroin, a small amount of marijuana, four digital scales, assorted plastic baggies, baking soda and a coffee pot containing cocaine residue.

Novembre stated that the approximate street value of the seized drugs is more than \$9,000.

William Laster, 56, of South Cook Avenue, Trenton, was charged with two counts of 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 of marijuana under 50 grams and possession of drug paraphernalia. He is being held at the Mercer County Correction Center in lieu of \$150,000 bail. Laster's vehicle, a 2008 Toyota Avalon, was seized as drug proceeds, and \$963 in cash was seized from his person.

Tammy Davis, 36, of Cuyler Avenue, Trenton, and Gregory Newsome, 47, of East State Street, Trenton, were transported to the Trenton Police Department for active warrants. Sabrina Brace, 21, of Wrightstown, was picked up by Freehold Township police for active warrants.

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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