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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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THREE KILOS OF HEROIN SEIZED IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY DRUG INVESTIGATION; TRAFFICKER ARRESTED



NORRISTOWN, Pa.--Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and other local, state and federal law enforcement officials announced today the arrest of East Norriton resident David Pacheco and the seizure of more than 3 kilos (6.6 pounds) of heroin, with a street value in excess of \$1 million following a nine-month investigation involving:

- Montgomery County Detective Bureau Narcotics Enforcement Team (NET)
- Montgomery County District Attorney's Office Local Drug Task Force
- Berks County District Attorney's Office
- Drug Enforcement Administration (New York, Atlanta and Philadelphia offices)
- Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Intelligence Center (PACIC)
- Pennsylvania State Police (PSP)
- Upper Merion Township Police Department

- Norristown Police Department
- East Norriton Police Department
- Bridgeport Police Department
- Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network (MAGLOCLN).

“Heroin is cheap, it’s deadly and it’s impacting the lives of too many families in Montgomery County and across the United States. We have severed an artery in a significant heroin trafficking organization, ultimately stopping the flow of this deadly drug into and through our area by David Pacheco,” said Steele in announcing the arrest and seizure. “Taking more than three kilos of heroin out of the pipeline is a huge success for the safety and well being of the people of Montgomery County and the larger region.”

The “Operation EverStart” investigation and surveillance of Pacheco, headed up by Montgomery County Detectives, revealed a criminal conspiracy to acquire, transport, store and distribute heroin in the United States and Montgomery County. Since April 2015, Pacheco was identified as a primary subject in the investigation, and since September 2015, detectives documented at least nine trips made by Pacheco to service wholesale heroin buyers in New York City. The investigation revealed that each time Pacheco drove to Atlanta, he received kilos of heroin in retrofitted, working car batteries, which he drove to Montgomery County, then to Bronx, N.Y. Upon being paid for the heroin in New York City, he would return to Georgia with the cash. Pacheco’s deliveries of heroin occurred between mid-September 2015 and Jan. 10, 2016 when he was arrested. Pacheco, who owns D&J Towing in Norristown, smuggled the heroin to Montgomery County for later distribution to others in Bronx, N.Y.

Pacheco was arrested on Jan. 10 at the King of Prussia toll plaza of the Pennsylvania Turnpike with 3.012 kilos of a white substance that when analyzed by National Medical Services was determined to be heroin. Pacheco was arraigned and held in Montgomery County Correctional Facility on \$1 million bail. Pacheco was charged today in a superseding criminal complaint with participating in a corrupt organization, criminal conspiracy, delivery, and possession with the intent to deliver a controlled substance (heroin), dealing in unlawful proceeds and illegal use of a communication facility for the nine deliveries of heroin since September 2015. Pacheco is expected to be arraigned before Magisterial Judge James P. Gallagher at 3 p.m. in his courtroom at 128 W. Fourth Street in Bridgeport.

The case will be prosecuted by District Attorney Steele and the Captain of the Narcotics Unit Kelly Lloyd.

Approved for release:

Kevin R. Steele

CRIMINAL CHARGES, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF, ARE MERELY ALLEGATIONS AND ALL DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.