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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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JOSE CHARRIEZ OF POTTSTOWN'S "STRAIGHT CASH MONEY GANG" INDICTED ON FEDERAL CHARGES; FACES LIFE IN PRISON



NORRISTOWN, Pa.—Following a lengthy, large-scale investigation dubbed “Operation War Ready” into two violent criminal gangs operating in Pottstown, Pa., the Montgomery County District Attorney’s Office arrested 47 individuals on May 14, 2015, including one of the leaders José “Jun” Charriez. Following review of the case and based on Charriez’s prior federal record and convictions, the U.S. Attorney’s Office announced the filing of federal charges against the defendant on Jan. 27.

Charriez, 35, was charged with possession of cocaine with the intent to distribute, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, announced United States Attorney Zane David Memeger. The indictment alleges that on or about March 18, 2015, Charriez was in possession of the cocaine and a loaded .45 caliber handgun in a home in Pottstown.

If convicted, the defendant faces a maximum possible sentence of life in prison and a \$2.5 million fine.

“The fact that Charriez is now facing federal charges shows that our federal counterparts recognize his significant role as one of the leaders of the Straight Cash Money Gang,” said District Attorney Kevin R. Steele. “This was a very violent group who engaged in trafficking drugs and firearms and clashed with a rival gang doing damage to the community in Pottstown.”

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Montgomery County Detective Bureau and the Pottstown Police Department, and is now being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jason P. Bologna.

Since his arrest last May, Charriez has been incarcerated, first at the Montgomery County Correctional Facility and now at a federal facility.

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.