



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

KEVIN R. STEELE

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

EDWARD F. McCANN, JR.

FIRST ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

COURTHOUSE

P.O. BOX 311

NORRISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

19404-0311

SAMUEL J. GALLEN

CHIEF COUNTY DETECTIVE

JESSE S. KING

CHIEF OF STAFF

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S FAX

COUNTY DETECTIVE BUREAU

(610) 278-3090

(610) 278-3095

(610) 278-3368

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DA's Office: Kate Delano 610-278-3148

**FORMER POLICE OFFICER FACING FELONY THEFT, OTHER CHARGES;
TAKEN INTO CUSTODY FOLLOWING INCIDENT AT CHURCH**

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Aug. 31, 2017) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele, Lower Providence Police Chief Stanley Turtle and West Norriton Police Chief A. Dale Mabry announce the arrest of Charles Murray, 37, of Eagleville, for felony Theft, five counts of misdemeanor Theft, Theft from a Vehicle, Recklessly Endangering Another Person, Institutional Vandalism and Carrying a Firearm without a Proper License.

At 6:45 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 29, 2017, Lower Providence police discovered a police vehicle had been broken into while parked in the township parking lot. An M-16 patrol rifle and ammunition was stolen from the car. Murray, a former Lower Providence Police Officer, had previously operated the police vehicle that was broken into. A Lower Providence detective contacted Murray to ask him to come to the police station to discuss an important matter. He refused.

At 8:13 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 30, West Norriton Police, Lower Providence Police and Montgomery County Detectives responded to St. Teresa of Avila Church in West Norriton after a priest saw Murray's vehicle with a ventilation hose running into the closed car in an apparent attempt to commit suicide. Murray voluntarily went into the church to talk with the priest, and at 10 a.m., he was taken into police custody without incident. Detectives recovered the M-16 and ammunition from under the Collegeville Bridge.

Murray has not yet been arraigned; his arraignment before Magisterial District Judge Cathleen Rebar is pending.

The case will be prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Laura Bradbury, captain of the Firearms Unit.

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.

