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MICHAEL BELL OF NORRISTOWN ARRESTED FOR FIRST-DEGREE MURDER, RELATED CHARGES



NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Sept. 25, 2017) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and Norristown Police Chief Mark E. Talbot Sr., announce the arrest of Michael Bell, 34, for First-Degree Murder and other charges related to the Sept. 23, 2017, homicide of Leroy McCray, 42, in Norristown.

At 8:13 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 23, Norristown Police responded to Riverside Apartments for a report of a dead body. Officer Jason Hoover arrived to find McCray, 42, lying on the couch, dead from wounds to his head. A joint investigation by the Montgomery County Detective Bureau and Norristown Municipal Police Department revealed that Bell and McCray had a verbal altercation that ended with Bell hitting McCray multiple times with a carpentry hammer.

An autopsy was conducted by the Montgomery County Coroner's Office, which determined the cause of death was multiple blunt force trauma to the head. The manner of death was ruled homicide.

Bell was arraigned before Magisterial District Judge Margaret Hunsicker, who denied bail and then remanded him to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for 11:45 a.m., Oct. 6, 2017 before Judge Hunsicker.

The case will be prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Thomas McGoldrick and Assistant District Attorney Doug Lavenberg.

Approved for release:

Edward F. McCann, Jr.
First Assistant District Attorney

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