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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **TWO MEN CHARGED WITH MULTIPLE ARMED ROBBERIES, THEFTS OF WALMART STORES IN SEVEN COUNTIES**



Jon Beverly



Mauricece Foreman

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Feb. 22, 2018) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele, Bucks County District Attorney Matthew Weintraub, Carbon County District Attorney Joan Engler, Cumberland County District Attorney Skip Ebert, Dauphin County District Attorney Francis. T. Chardo, Lancaster County District Attorney Craig W. Stedman, Luzerne County District Attorney Stefanie J. Salavantis and Pottstown Borough Police Chief F. Richard Drumheller announce the arrests of Jon Beverly, 28, of Philadelphia, and Mauricece Foreman, 26, of Pottstown, on multiple felony charges related to five armed robberies and five retail thefts at Walmart stores in Montgomery, Bucks, Carbon, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster and Luzerne counties. The robberies

and thefts occurred between July 23, 2017 and Jan. 7, 2018, with a total value of more than \$52,000 in merchandise being stolen.

Both defendants are charged with 40 felony counts of Robbery with Threat of Serious Bodily Injury, Criminal Conspiracy to Commit Robbery, Criminal Conspiracy to Commit Retail Theft, Retail Theft, Theft by Unlawful Taking, Theft by Receiving Stolen Property and Organized Retail Theft. They are also charged with Possessing Instruments of Crime, Simple Assault and Simple Assault with Serious Bodily Injury, which are misdemeanors.

The joint investigation of these 10 retail thefts and robberies at Walmart stores across the Commonwealth progressed when Foreman was apprehended and arrested by Pottstown Police following a **Jan. 7, 2018**, armed robbery of the Walmart store on Shoemaker Road in Pottstown in Montgomery County. During that armed robbery, Foreman put a gun to the employee's head and demanded all 20 iPhones in the display case be placed in a bag he had just stolen from a different section of the store. The value of the iPhones were \$6,383. That was the tenth and final armed robbery and theft.

The nine prior thefts and robberies in chronological order were:

**Crime 1: July 23, 2017**, Walmart store on Blakeslee Boulevard East Drive in Lehighton, Mahoning Township, Carbon County: theft of four home surveillance systems, two computers, three Wi-Fi systems and two whole home Wi-Fi systems; value of \$3,872.18.

**Crime 2: Aug. 6, 2017**, Walmart store on Lincoln Highway East in East Lampeter Township, Lancaster County: theft of several iPhones; value of \$4,096.

**Crime 3: Dec. 12, 2017**, Walmart store at Wilkes-Barre Township Marketplace in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County: theft of nine types of iPhones and a bag; value of \$7,059.

**Crime 4: Dec. 18, 2017**, Walmart store on North Gulph Road in King of Prussia, Upper Merion Township, Montgomery County: three JBL speakers and a bed comforter; value of \$397.

**Crime 5: Dec. 18, 2017**, Walmart store on South Trooper Road in Norristown, West Norriton Township, Montgomery County: armed robbery of a computer and two JBL speakers; value of \$977.

**Crime 6: Dec. 23, 2017**, Walmart store on Noble Boulevard in Carlisle Borough, Cumberland County: armed robbery of 10 iPhones; value of \$7,784.

**Crime 7: Dec. 27, 2017**, Walmart store on Kocher Lane in Elizabethville, Mifflin Township, Dauphin County: theft of plastic storage tote and six laptop computers; value of \$1,502.97.

**Crime 8: Dec. 27, 2017**, Walmart store on Lincoln Highway East in East Lampeter Township, Lancaster County: armed robbery of 11 iPhones; value of \$7,653.

**Crime 9: Jan. 4, 2018**, Walmart store on Bethlehem Pike in Hatfield, Hilltown Township, Bucks County: armed robbery of 14 types of iPhones; value of \$13,084.

The total value of all items stolen during these 10 armed robberies and thefts was \$52,808.15.

The lengthy investigation involved multiple law enforcement agencies, including the Montgomery County Detective Bureau; the FBI; police from Pottstown, Upper Merion, West Norriton, Mahoning Township, Manheim Borough, East Lampeter Township, Wilkes-Barre Township, Carlisle Borough and Hilltown Township; and the Pennsylvania State Police.

Prior to today's charges, Foreman was charged with the Pottstown armed robbery on Jan. 7, 2018, and has been in the Montgomery County Correctional Facility (MCCF) since. Beverly was detained on Jan. 25, 2018, by Philadelphia County on a probation violation.

Beverly and Foreman were arraigned before Magisterial District Judge Marc A. Alfarano, who set bail at \$250,000 cash bail for each. The defendants were unable to post bail and were remanded to MCCF. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for 10 a.m., March 7, 2018, before Judge Alfarano.

The case will be prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Benjamin McKenna.

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.