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PHILADELPHIA MAN ARRESTED FOR THE JUNE 17 MURDER OF 19-YEAR-OLD DESMOND JOHNSON IN NORRISTOWN



NORRISTOWN, Pa. (June 22, 2018) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and Norristown Police Chief Mark E. Talbot announce the arrest of Andre Marcus Johnson, 18, of Philadelphia, for First-Degree Murder, Robbery, Person Not to Possess a Firearm and related charges stemming from the June 17 murder of Desmond Johnson, 19, in the 300 block of Carson Alley in Norristown. The victim and the defendant are not related.

At 11:52 p.m. on Saturday, June 16, Norristown Police responded to reports of gunshots in the area of Carson Alley, behind 330 E. Penn Street in Norristown. Thirty minutes later at 12:22 a.m., on June 17, Norristown Police responded to the 300 block of Carson Alley for a report of a body lying on the ground. Officers found the victim, who was deceased from an apparent gunshot wound.

The Montgomery County Detective Bureau and the Norristown Police Department commenced a joint investigation into the homicide. During crime scene processing, investigators gathered video surveillance from various locations in the area and secured the victim's cell phone. The investigation revealed that the defendant arranged a meeting with the victim under the ruse of purchasing marijuana, then robbed and shot him at the meet location.

The defendant was arraigned before Magisterial District Judge Margaret Hunsicker. Bail was denied. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for 10 a.m., July 3, 2018, before Judge Hunsicker.

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.