



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

MARK A. BERNSTIEL

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

PHILADELPHIA MAN ARRESTED FOR SELLING, DELIVERING DRUGS TO HOSPITAL PATIENT



JEREMIAH HARRIS

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Sept. 27, 2021) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and East Norriton Township Police Chief Brandon Pasquale announce the arrest of Jeremiah Harris, 30, of the 4100 block of Robbins St. in Philadelphia for multiple felony counts of Possession with Intent to Deliver and other charges related to selling and delivering heroin/fentanyl to a patient at Einstein Hospital as well as other subsequent heroin/fentanyl sales.

The investigation began on June 30 when Einstein Medical Center Montgomery notified East Norriton Township Police that hospital staff had seized illegal narcotics that day. Nursing staff had discovered 32 baggies of suspected heroin/fentanyl hidden inside a Pringles potato chip container, which was inside a Wawa bag marked with the patient's room number. Per hospital policy, all deliveries to patients who are known drug users must be inspected by nursing staff. The nurse who inspected the delivery astutely noted some discrepancies in the food delivery, and upon inspection, she discovered the heroin/fentanyl within the Pringles container.

Once the suspected heroin/fentanyl was discovered, hospital security personnel and East Norriton Police reviewed video surveillance of the hospital entrance where the Wawa bag was dropped off at 4:43 p.m. that day. The male making the delivery was located on the video surveillance and positively identified as Jeremiah Harris.

In response to the attempted heroin/fentanyl delivery to the hospital, Montgomery County Detectives and East Norriton Police conducted a series of controlled buys of heroin/fentanyl from Harris, culminating in the seizure of approximately 650 bags of heroin/fentanyl that were purchased from Harris.

Harris was arrested and charged with multiple felony counts of Possession With Intent to Deliver, Criminal Use of a Communications Facility, Possession of a Controlled Substance and related charges. Harris was arraigned on Sept. 21, 2021 on all charges before on-call Magisterial District Judge Harry Nesbitt, who set bail at \$100,000 cash for each set of charges. On Sept. 22, 2021, as part of the Pre-Trial Services Program, Harris' bail was reviewed and was left unchanged by Court of Common Pleas Judge Garrett D. Page. Harris was unable to make bail and was remanded to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility.

Preliminary hearings are scheduled for 10:45 a.m., Oct. 4, 2021, before Magisterial District Judge Marc A. Alfarano regarding the drug delivery/sale to the hospital patient, and 2:30 p.m., Oct. 5, 2021, before Magisterial District Judge John D. Kessler regarding the controlled buys.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Lindsey Mills, Captain of the Narcotics 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.