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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FILES MURDER, OTHER CHARGES AGAINST KAREEM WELTON RELATED TO THE JULY 2021 HIGH-SPEED INCIDENT THROUGH PHILADELPHIA AND MONTCO



KAREEM WELTON

NORRISTOWN (April 19, 2022) -- Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele announced the filing of Murder, Attempted Murder and other charges against Kareem Welton, 41, of Philadelphia, related to the spree of criminal behavior that occurred in the overnight hours of July 27-28, 2021, spanning from Center City Philadelphia to Trappe, Pa. where he was captured by police.

“Because it was the same criminal episode, the Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office has agreed to allow Montgomery County to charge and prosecute all of the criminal behavior committed by the defendant in its jurisdiction,” said DA Steele. “This defendant’s behavior that night involved numerous crimes, from stealing a dog and stealing multiple cars to killing someone and robbing her of her chef’s coat, to intentionally targeting other individuals with his vehicle. Welton’s criminal behavior left many individuals and families traumatized and grieving. We will prosecute all of his crimes together to accurately portray the egregiousness of this crime spree.”

The investigation found that the criminal episode began at 10:43 p.m. July 27, in Philadelphia when Welton attempted to rob a Thomas Jefferson University Hospital Public Safety Officer of her bicycle and then proceeded to Brambrey Terrace where he

stole a 2014 Chevrolet Malibu. He then stole "Legend," a 5-year old Maltese Poodle mix, from the 6100 block of Glenmore Street.

After stealing the dog, Welton proceeded down Broad Street where he struck a motorcycle, injuring two people, then went to South 15th Street, where he drove onto the sidewalk and struck and injured one person and killed Adriana Moreno-Sanchez. While Moreno-Sanchez lay on the ground, Welton stole her chef's jacket, then abandoned the Chevrolet Malibu. Welton continued by going to South 10th Street where he unsuccessfully attempted to rob another vehicle, then proceeded to Rittenhouse Street where he stole a 2012 silver Nissan. This stolen vehicle is what Welton was driving when he drove down Umbria Street and struck and injured a bicyclist. From there, he fled to Montgomery County where he struck and severely injured a jogger on Main Street in Collegeville before he was ultimately stopped and was taken into custody shortly after 6 a.m. on July 28.

Welton has been in the Montgomery County Correctional Facility on \$2 million bail since being arrested on July 28, 2021 on the original charges. He was arraigned April 18, 2022 by Magisterial District Judge Jodi Lukens Griffis on the new charges of First-Degree Murder, Attempted Murder, Aggravated Assault, Robbery, Robbery of a Motor Vehicle, Attempted Robbery of a Motor Vehicle, Accidents Involving Death or Injury and related charges. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for 9 a.m., April 26, 2022 in front of Magisterial District Judge Cathleen Kelly Rebar.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant Chief of Trials Roderick Fancher III.

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.