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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MORRISVILLE MAN ARRESTED WITH \$20,000 WORTH OF FENTANYL, CHARGED WITH FELONY TRAFFICKING



NAIM PAYTON

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (April 28, 2022) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and Pottstown Police Chief Mick Markovich announce the arrest of Naim Payton, 23, of Morrisville, Pa., on felony charges related to trafficking large quantities of fentanyl.

Montgomery County law enforcement learned that Payton would be in the Pottstown area on Monday, April 25, 2022 to sell a large quantity of uncut fentanyl. At 6 p.m., Payton was spotted by Montgomery County Detectives arriving in the 400 block of North Evans Street in Pottstown. Detectives stopped Payton's vehicle and found 1,500 bags of uncut fentanyl. The 1,500 doses of fentanyl were packaged for sale in 10-baggie bundles, then five bundles were packaged into a "brick," and five of those bricks were packaged together into a "rack." The seized fentanyl has a street value of approximately \$20,000.

"Fentanyl is continuing to kill Montgomery County residents at an alarming rate, even as methamphetamine is becoming more prevalent throughout Southeastern Pennsylvania. This significant arrest and seizure will make Montgomery County a safer place," said DA Steele. "The message is clear to drug dealers: no matter what

poison you are selling—fentanyl, opioids, heroin or methamphetamine—don't do it in Montgomery County.”

Payton was arrested on felony Possession With Intent to Deliver as well as Possession of a Controlled Substance, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Possession of a Small Amount of Marijuana. He was arraigned by Magisterial District Judge Scott T. Palladino on April 26, 2022, who set bail at \$150,000 cash. The bail was reviewed in the Court of Common Pleas on April 27, 2022 and modified to \$99,000 cash. Payton was unable to post bail and was remanded to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for set for 8:45 a.m., May 19, 2022 before Judge Palladino.

The case will be prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Allison Ruth, Captain of the High-Intensity Drug Trafficking 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.