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DRIVER AND TRUCK OWNER CHARGED IN AUG. 25th FATAL CRASH IN LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Oct. 28, 2022)—Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and Lower Providence Township Police Chief Michael Jackson announce that charges have been filed for Everett Clayton, 56, of Charleston, W.Va., and Patrick Doran, 23, of Gaithersburg, Md., related to the Aug. 25, 2022 crash in Lower Providence Township that killed 31-year-old Kellie Adams, of Lansdale, and her unborn baby Emersyn Grace Adams.

Clayton, the driver of the dump truck, is charged with Homicide by Vehicle, Careless Driving/Unintentional Death, Reckless Driving, Driving at an Unsafe Speed, and multiple other offenses related to the unsafe and unregistered condition of the dump truck. Doran, the owner of the dump truck, is charged with Homicide by Vehicle, Permitting Violation of Title, Operating Vehicle without Required Financial Responsibility, Operating Vehicle Without Valid Inspection and multiple other offenses related to the unsafe and unregistered condition of the dump truck.

The crash occurred just before 3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25, 2022. Lower Providence Township Police responded to the 500 block of South Park Avenue for a reported two-vehicle crash. Police arrived to find that a head-on crash occurred involving 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe driven by Ms. Adams and a 2003 Ford F650 XLT Super Duty dump truck driven by defendant Clayton. Ms. Adams was pronounced dead at the scene, and the baby was later delivered stillborn. The driver of the dump truck was not injured and admitted to police following the crash that he had been drinking Sly Fox IPA beers. Blood testing found that Clayton had a blood alcohol content of .076, just under the legal limit to drive.

The joint investigation by the Lower Providence Township Police, Montgomery County Detective Bureau and members of the Regional Crash Reconstruction Team found that Clayton was operating the dump truck at a speed in excess of the posted speed limit of 25 mph as he navigated a curve in the road. The excess speed caused Clayton to be unable to keep the dump truck in his own lane of travel, applying rapid steering movements that caused the truck to cross over the yellow center lines. His vehicle's front driver side struck the Chevrolet Tahoe's front driver's side with such a violent impact that it immediately stopped all forward momentum of the Tahoe and caused the dump body portion of the dump truck to fully separate from the chassis, sending the chassis rolling.

Detectives investigating the crash found that dump truck was owned by Patrick Doran, who had purchased it on July 6, 2022 under the false name of "Jacob

Fury,” presenting a fictitious New York State driver’s license to complete the transaction. Doran never titled the vehicle in any state, did not have it inspected, registered or insured as required under state law, and operated the vehicle without complying with proper federal laws for this size vehicle.

Further, investigators determined that the dump truck was being used by Stellar Paving and Drainage with an address of 1960 butler Pike, 124-143, Conshohocken, PA 19428, which is the address of a UPS store. The post office box rented at the UPS store was rented by “Jacob Fury” as the owner of Stellar Paving and Drainage using the false NY state identification.

“This dump truck was being operated in an unsafe manner by the driver Everett Clayton, which caused the dump truck to cross the center line and crash head on to the Chevrolet Tahoe, killing Kellie Adams and her baby Emersyn. Beyond the driver’s direct action that caused the homicide, the owner allowed this truck to be on the road even though he knew it didn’t even meet basic requirements for legal operation. The dump truck should never have been on the road where it became a lethal weapon,” said DA Steele. “The deaths of this beloved young mother and her baby have caused so much heartache for the family and the community. We are saddened by their loss and have charged as the law has allowed.”

Warrants have been issued for the arrests of Clayton and Doran. Once arrested, they will be extradited to Montgomery County to face the charges.

Approved for release:
Kevin R. Steele