



NEWS RELEASE

Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes
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PASSAIC COUNTY SHERIFF'S INVESTIGATOR ARRESTED ON DRUG CHARGES

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

MAY 26, 2011

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes announces that on May 26, 2011, members of the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office, Public Integrity Unit, arrested Passaic County Sheriff's Investigator Albert Hapatsha, age 22, for conspiracy to possess a Controlled Dangerous Substance, namely, Roxicet pills. Hapatsha was arrested in Wayne, New Jersey, and bail has been set by the Wayne Municipal Court at \$10,000.

Hapatsha is charged with conspiracy to possess a Controlled Dangerous Substance, a crime of the third degree, which is punishable by up to five years in New Jersey State Prison, as well as the potential forfeiture of his public employment upon conviction.

The charges arise from an investigation conducted by the Public Integrity Unit of the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office into allegations of drug use by an Investigator with the Passaic County Sheriff's Department.

A criminal complaint is merely an accusation. Despite this accusation, the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Any inquiries may be directed to Passaic County Chief Assistant Prosecutor J. Patrick McCabe. He can be reached at (973) 837-7763 or pmccabe@passaiccountynj.org.