



## NEWS RELEASE

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### INDICTMENT RETURNED IN POLICE-INVOLVED SHOOTING INCIDENT

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Paterson, New Jersey

December 1, 2009

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes announced that a Passaic County Grand Jury returned an indictment against both Paterson Police Officer Latrenta Grayson, age 32, of Paterson and Albert Mullings, age 30, of Teaneck in connection with an August 24, 2009 police-involved shooting. Mullings is alleged to have entered Grayson's home at 238 Wall Avenue via a rear bathroom window at or about 2:10 a.m., wherein he subsequently assaulted and threatened to kill Grayson's boyfriend, Anthony Spruill. A subsequent confrontation in the area of Wall and 15<sup>th</sup> Avenues resulted in Grayson firing two shots at Mullings, striking him once in his right arm. On February 6, 2009 Grayson had obtained a final restraining order against Mullings, barring him from her residence.

Officer Grayson is charged in the indictment with third degree Aggravated Assault upon Albert Mullings, as well as Official Misconduct, a second degree crime. It is alleged that Grayson falsely reported the circumstances leading up to the shooting in her initial account to the responding Paterson patrol officers, in her official report filed several days later, and in a subsequent interview conducted by detectives from the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office. It is further alleged that the firing of two shots at Mullings was neither justified for the protection of Grayson and/or Spruill, nor was it in keeping with the Attorney General's Use of Force Guidelines. The charges against Officer Grayson carry a combined potential State prison term of up to 15 years.

Mullings is charged in the indictment with Contempt of Court by violating the restraining order, Burglary, and Terroristic Threats. The burglary charge is a second degree crime and carries with it a potential State prison sentence of up to 10 years. The contempt and terroristic threat charges are respectively fourth and third degree crimes which combined are punishable by up to 6 ½ years in State prison.

It is anticipated that both Mullings and Grayson will be formally arraigned on the indictment in January, 2010.

**AN INDICTMENT IS MERELY AN ACCUSATION. DESPITE THIS ACCUSATION, THE DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNLESS AND UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT.**