



NEWS RELEASE

Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes
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ARREST MADE IN CONNECTION WITH JANUARY 1, 2019 SHOOTING INVESTIGATION

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

JANUARY 4, 2018

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes and Passaic Police Chief Luis A. Guzman announce that based upon an investigation by the Passaic Police Department, Luis A. Ledesma, 18 years old, from Passaic, New Jersey, and a 15-year-old juvenile were arrested January 3, 2019, in relation to a shooting that took place January 1, 2019. Mr. Ledesma is charged with Attempted Murder, First Degree; Conspiracy, First Degree; Aggravated Assault, Third Degree; Unlawful Possession of a Weapon, Second Degree; and Possession of a Weapon for an Unlawful Purpose, Second Degree. The 15-year-old juvenile is charged with Attempted Murder, First Degree; Conspiracy, First Degree; Aggravated Assault, Second Degree; Unlawful Possession of a Weapon, Second Degree; Possession of a Firearm for an Unlawful Purpose, Second Degree; Aggravated Assault, Third Degree; and Criminal Mischief, Fourth Degree.

On January 1, 2019, members of the Passaic Police Department responded to the area of Third Street and Bergen Street on a report of shots fired. Upon arrival the police located a possible crime scene but were unable to locate a victim. The victim was later identified as an 18-year-old male Passaic resident who was the target, but not injured. Based upon the investigation Luis Ledesma and the 15-year-old juvenile were charged.

Mr. Ledesma and the juvenile were both arrested on January 3, 2019 in the area of Washington Place and Passaic Street.

The sentencing exposure for Mr. Ledesma on First Degree Attempted Murder is 10-20 years New Jersey State Prison with 85% of the term to be served before parole pursuant to the No Early Release Act and 5 years parole supervision; on First Degree Conspiracy it is 10-20 years New Jersey State Prison with 85% of the term to be served before parole pursuant to the No Early Release Act and 5 years parole supervision; on Second Degree Unlawful Possession of a Weapon it is 5-10 years New Jersey State Prison with 42 months of parole ineligibility pursuant to the Graves Act; on Second Degree Possession of a Weapon for an Unlawful Purpose it is 5-10 years New Jersey State Prison with 42 months of parole ineligibility pursuant to the Graves Act; and on Third Degree Aggravated Assault it is 3-5 years New Jersey State Prison.

The disposition exposure for the juvenile on First Degree Attempted Murder is four years care and custody of the Juvenile Justice Commission; on First Degree Conspiracy it is four years care and custody of the Juvenile Justice Commission; on Second Degree Aggravated Assault it is three years care and custody of the Juvenile Justice Commission; on Second Degree Unlawful Possession of a Weapon, it is three years care and custody of the Juvenile Justice Commission; on Second Degree Possession of a Firearm for an Unlawful Purpose it is three years care and custody of the Juvenile Justice Commission, on Third Degree Aggravated Assault it is two years care and custody of the Juvenile Justice Commission; and on Fourth Degree Criminal Mischief it is one year care and custody of the Juvenile Justice Commission.

The State has filed a motion for pretrial detention for Mr. Ledesma that will be heard by a Superior Court Judge.

The juvenile complaint is docketed within the Superior Court Family Division. Juvenile proceedings pursuant to New Jersey law must remain confidential. Therefore, the juvenile cannot be identified.

Criminal and juvenile complaints are merely an accusation. Despite this accusation, defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

The Passaic County Prosecutor's Office asks anyone with additional information about this incident to contact us on our tips line at 1-877-370-PCPO or tips@passaiccountynj.org or contact the Passaic Police Department at 973-365-3900.

For media inquiries concerning this incident, contact Chief Assistant Prosecutor Seth Galkin of the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office at sgalkin@passaiccountynj.org or at (973) 881-4849.



(Photo: Luis Ledesma)