



# NEWS RELEASE

**Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes**  
Passaic County Prosecutor's Office  
401 Grand Street  
Paterson, NJ 07505  
(973) 881-4800

---

## **PATERSON MAN ARRESTED FOR SELF-INFLICTED GUNSHOT WOUND IN CONNECTION WITH APRIL 25, 2019 SHOOTING INVESTIGATION**

---

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

MAY 1, 2019

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes and Paterson Police Chief Troy Oswald announce that based upon an investigation by the Paterson Police Department, in conjunction with the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office, Denzel Shepperson a 26-year-old Paterson resident, was arrested on April 30, 2019 in relation to a shooting incident that took place April 25, 2019.

On April 25, 2019, members of the Paterson Police Department responded to Saint Joseph's Regional Medical Center in Paterson on a report that a 26-year-old male Paterson resident was seeking treatment for a non-fatal gunshot wound. Police were unable to locate a crime scene. The investigation has revealed and it is alleged that Mr. Shepperson shot himself. Mr. Shepperson was arrested at his home on April 30, 2019 where CDS was recovered and two children were present.

The sentencing exposure for Mr. Shepperson on Second Degree Unlawful Possession of a Handgun is 5-10 years New Jersey State Prison with a minimum of 42 months before parole eligibility 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 a minimum of 42 months before parole eligibility pursuant to the Graves Act; on Third Degree Hindering Apprehension or Prosecution it is 3-5 years New Jersey State Prison, on Second Degree Certain Persons Not to Have Weapons it is 5-10 years New Jersey State Prison with a minimum of 5 years before parole eligibility; on Fourth Degree Possession CDS with the Intent to Distribute it is up to 18 months New Jersey State Prison; on Third Degree Possession CDS with the Intent to Distribute while within a 1000 feet of school property it is 3-5 years New Jersey State Prison; and on each count of Second Degree Endangering the Welfare of a Child it is 5-10 years New Jersey State Prison.

The State intends to file a motion for pretrial detention in this matter that will be heard by a Superior Court Judge.

A criminal complaint is 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](mailto:tips@passaiccountynj.org) or contact the Paterson Police Ceasefire Unit at 973-321-1342.

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



(Photo: Denzel Shepperson)