



NEWS RELEASE

Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes
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PATERSON MAN CHARGED WITH FIREARM AND AGGRAVATED ASSAULT OFFENSES RELATED TO NON-FATAL POLICE-INVOLVED SHOOTING IN PATERSON

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

November 30, 2017

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes announces the filing of charges against Dionte Robinson, age 18, of Paterson.

Dionte Robinson was arrested without incident in Paterson and charged by the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office on November 29, 2017, with one count of second degree Unlawful Possession of a Weapon, namely a handgun, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5b; one count of second degree Possession of a Weapon for an Unlawful Purpose, namely a handgun, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-4a; three counts of fourth degree Aggravated Assault by pointing a firearm, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:12-1b(4); and one count of fourth degree Possession of a Defaced Firearm, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-3d. A second degree charge carries a maximum term of ten (10) years in New Jersey State Prison, and a fourth degree charge carries a maximum term of eighteen (18) months in New Jersey State Prison.

The incident occurred in the area of North 5th Street between Clinton and Jefferson Streets in the City of Paterson shortly after 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 29, 2017. Prior to their arrival at that location, Paterson police made observations of Mr. Robinson allegedly in possession of what appeared to be a handgun. Upon arrival, several officers encountered Mr. Robinson who allegedly pointed a handgun in the direction of at least three members of the Paterson Police Department. During the course of the incident, two of the officers discharged their department-issued handguns. There is no immediate indication of injuries to either police or civilians to date. The handgun allegedly possessed by Mr. Robinson was recovered and the serial number appeared to be defaced. The Passaic County Prosecutor's Office Shooting Response Team was activated and is handling the investigation pursuant to Attorney General Directives.

The investigation in this matter, including the use of force by police, remains ongoing. At this time, further information will not be released so as not to jeopardize the safety of persons involved or to jeopardize the investigation in progress.

The Open Public Records Act and Executive Order #69 address the balancing required during ongoing investigations. Not all information regarding an arrest may be or should be released within 24 hours. In an ongoing investigation, the release of information is guided by concerns including victim safety, the integrity of the investigation, and harm to a bona fide law enforcement purpose or public safety. The release of information pertinent to public safety, and the timing of its release, are designed to minimize witness taint, encourage current and future witness cooperation, protect the rights of criminal defendants or suspects, and engender trust with the public.

Media inquiries should be directed to Chief Assistant Prosecutor Mary Catherine Ryan at mryan@passaiccountynj.org.

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.

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