



NEWS RELEASE

Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes
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ARREST MADE IN PATERSON BILLIARDS HOMICIDE FROM DECEMBER 1, 2017

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

December 22, 2017

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes, Deputy Paterson Police Chief Ibrahim Baycora and Sheriff Richard H. Berdnik announce that based upon a joint investigation by the Paterson Police Department and the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office, Leroy Hodgson, age 33-years-old, from Paterson, was arrested last night by members of the Passaic County Sheriff's Department without incident at a store in the Wayne Hills Mall in relation to a homicide that took place December 1, 2017, at Paterson Billiards - located at 183 Market Street in Paterson. Hodgson is charged with Murder, first degree; Possession of a Weapon for an Unlawful Purpose, second degree; Unlawful Possession of a Weapon, second degree; and Certain Persons Not to Have Weapons, second degree.

On December 1, 2017, at approximately 2:38 am, members of the Paterson Police Department responded to Paterson Billiards -located at 183 Market Street in Paterson, in response to a report of shots fired. Upon arrival, they located a 34-year-old male victim, Dontrelle Horne, from Paterson, who had suffered a gunshot wound. Mr. Horne was transported to St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center in Paterson, where he later died from his injuries. The investigation revealed that Hodgson became involved in a verbal altercation with the victim which culminated in Hodgson shooting and fatally wounding Mr. Horne.

Leroy Hodgson is scheduled to appear at Central Judicial Processing on December 22, 2017 at 1:30 pm. The State will file a motion for pretrial detention in this matter that will be later 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.

Anyone with additional information may also contact the Paterson Police Detective Bureau at 973-321-1120.

For media inquiries concerning this case, contact Chief Assistant Prosecutor Jason Statuto of the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office at jstatuto@passaiccountynj.org or at (973) 837-7733.



(Leroy Hodgson)