



NEWS RELEASE

Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes
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UPDATE: ARREST MADE IN APRIL 22, 2017 PATERSON SHOOTING DEATH

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY

April 25, 2017

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes, Paterson Police Department Deputy Chief Troy Oswald and Paterson Police Department Director Jerry Speziale announce the arrest of Tarmaj R. Lemmon, age 19, of Paterson, in shooting death of Vishon Randolph, which occurred on April 22, 2017. The arrest and charging of Lemmon is the result of the joint investigation of the Paterson Police Department and the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office.

It is alleged that in the early morning hours on April 22, 2017, in the area of Straight Street and Montgomery Street in Paterson, Lemmon shot and killed 18-year-old Paterson resident Vishon Randolph. Further, it is alleged that Lemmon shot at two additional victims, wounding one in the same incident. The wounded victim, Z.K., is expected to survive.

It is further alleged that last night, April 24, 2017, Lemmon was located and arrested by the police in the boiler room of a building on N. 4th Street in Paterson. At the time of his arrest, Lemmon is alleged to have been in possession of thirty-eight (38) glassine envelopes of heroin packaged for distribution and a handgun was also recovered near Lemmon.

It is further alleged that Lemmon, while being taken into custody for transport to police headquarters, assaulted a police officer (causing bruising and swelling to the wrist) and resisted arrest by temporarily fleeing on foot before being re-apprehended.

Consequently, Lemmon has been charged as follows: one count of First Degree Murder (NJSA 2C:11-3), two counts of First Degree Attempted Murder (NJSA 2C:5-1 & 2C:11-3), three counts of Second Degree Possession of a Weapon (handgun) for an Unlawful Purpose (NJSA 2C:39-4a), two counts of Second Degree Unlawful Possession of a Weapon (handgun) – (NJSA 2C:39-5b), one count of Fourth Degree Aggravated Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer (NJSA 2C:12-1b) and Fourth Degree Resisting Arrest (NJSA 2C:29-2), Third Degree Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance (heroin) – (NJSA 2C:35-10), Third Degree Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance (heroin) with the Intent to Distribute (NJSA 2C:35-5) and Second Degree Possession of a Weapon (handgun) while Committing a Controlled Dangerous Substance Offense (NJSA 2C:39-4.1).

If convicted Lemmon faces a minimum sentence of thirty (30) years imprisonment and a maximum sentence of life imprisonment on the First Degree Murder charge. He also faces up to twenty (20) years imprisonment on the Attempted Murder charges. The No Early Release Act applies to the First Degree Murder and the First Degree Attempted Murder charges which require a sentence be served to 85% of its term without parole eligibility. On each of the gun charges, Lemmon faces a minimum of five (5) years to a maximum of ten (10) years imprisonment pursuant to the Graves Act. Lemmon further faces a maximum of eighteen (18) months imprisonment on each of the charges for Fourth Degree Aggravated Assault and the Fourth Degree Resisting Arrest and three (3) to five (5) years imprisonment for the Third-Degree drug-related offenses.

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 via email at tips@passaiccountynj.org.

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

Lemmon is scheduled for his First Appearance today, April 25, 2017 at 1:30 pm, before Judge Cecilia Guzman, J.M.C. in Room 411 of the New Courthouse located at 77 Hamilton Street in Paterson.

A criminal complaint is merely an accusation. Despite these accusations, the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

For further information please contact Chief Assistant Prosecutor Paul DeGroot (973) 837- 7671, or pdegroot@passaiccountynj.org.



Tarmaj Lemmon