



NEWS RELEASE

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PATERSON MEN CHARGED WITH ASSAULT AND HANDGUN OFFENSES RELATED TO NON-FATAL POLICE-INVOLVED SHOOTING IN PATERSON

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

March 5, 2018

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes announces the indictment of Dionte Robinson, age 18, of Paterson, and Michael David, age 21, of Paterson.

A Passaic County Grand Jury has returned Indictment No. 18-02-0209-I charging Dionte Robinson and Michael David for offenses arising out of the City of Paterson on November 29, 2017. Mr. Robinson was indicted on the following charges: 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; four 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. Mr. David was indicted on the following charges: one count of second degree Unlawful Possession of a Weapon, namely a handgun, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5b; and one count of fourth degree Resisting Arrest by Flight, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:29-2a(2). 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. An investigation revealed that prior to their arrival at that location, Paterson Police made observations of a group of males that included Mr.

Robinson and Mr. David. During these initial observations, Mr. Robinson was allegedly in possession of what appeared to be a handgun. Upon arrival to the area of North 5th Street between Clinton and Jefferson Streets, detectives from the Paterson Police Department located several males including Mr. Robinson and Mr. David. Mr. Robinson then allegedly pointed a handgun at or in the direction of four detectives on scene, including Detective Jason English and Detective Kevin Kunzig of the Paterson Police Department. Detectives English and Kunzig each discharged their department-issued handguns once. No injuries were sustained by the police or civilians.

Dionte Robinson was arrested at the time of the incident and charged on November 30, 2017, by Passaic County Prosecutor's Office. The handgun he allegedly possessed was located on scene. At the time of recovery, the handgun was loaded and the serial number appeared to be defaced. After police arrival, Mr. David allegedly fled from the police and discarded a handgun during flight. The handgun he allegedly possessed was located on scene and was unloaded at the time. Mr. David was arrested without incident in Paterson and charged by the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office on December 5, 2017. Both defendants remain detained in the Passaic County Jail.

Because officers discharged their firearms, the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office Shooting Response Team was activated and handled the investigation pursuant to Attorney General Directives. A separate Passaic County Grand Jury found each detective's use of force to be justified.

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