

PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE
PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASE REPORT

1. STATION

PSP-Reading Headquarters

2. INCIDENT NO.

PA19-1192008

3. INVESTIGATING OFFICER

Troop L – Reading Vice/Narcotics Unit & Schuylkill County District Attorney's Office - Drug Task Force

4. NATURE OF INCIDENT

Controlled Substance, Drug Device and Cosmetic Act (Act 64 Violations)

5. DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT

10/08/19 at approx. 0605 hrs.

6. LOCATION

607 Fourth Street, Village of Mar Lin
Norwegian Township
Schuylkill County

1631 W. Norwegian Street
Pottsville City
Schuylkill County

939 W. 1st Street, Hazleton City, Luzerne County
555 Peace Street, Hazleton City, Luzerne County
724 N. Laurel Street, Hazleton City, Luzerne County
109 Debbie Drive, Drums, Butler Township, Luzerne County

*** Search warrants and arrest warrants were served at all of the above addresses.

7. PERSON(S) INVOLVED

Listed below.

8. INCIDENT DETAILS

For the past several months, the Pennsylvania State Police Troop L – Reading Vice Narcotics Unit along with the Schuylkill County District Attorney's Office – Drug Task Force began an investigation into the trafficking of narcotics within Schuylkill County. The investigation lead to southern Luzerne County and mostly within the Hazleton City area. Larger scale narcotics traffickers within the Hazleton area were receiving narcotics from suppliers as far as California and Massachusetts. Those narcotics were then being distributed within Luzerne, Schuylkill, and Berks Counties.

With the assistance from several local and area law enforcement agencies, the investigation led to obtaining several search and arrest warrants for the residences that were involved and accused that were apart of the corrupt organization. The following is a list of the Law Enforcement Agencies that were involved in this extensive investigation; PA State Police Reading Troop – L Vice/Narcotics Unit, Schuylkill County District Attorney's Office Drug Task Force Unit, PA State Police Hazleton Troop – N Vice/Narcotics Unit, Berks County District Attorney's Office – Narcotics Unit, Butler Twp. Police Department, U.S Postal Service Postal Inspector, Frackville, Ashland, Schuylkill Haven, Pottsville and Tower City Police Departments.***Schuylkill County Sheriff's Office also assisted with the investigation, but was not previously mentioned during press conference.****

On October 8, 2019 beginning at 0605 hours search and seizure warrants along with arrest warrants were executed at the aforementioned addresses. There were a total of fourteen arrest warrants issued between both Schuylkill and Luzerne Counties. Twelve out of fourteen accused were taken into custody on this date and arraigned in front of Magisterial District Judge David A. Plachko in Port Carbon, PA. Two of the accused in Luzerne County were arraigned by Magisterial District Judge James Dixon in West Hazleton, PA. The following is a list of the accused, the charges filed against them and the bail that was set at arraignment;

1. **Miguel Angel Carrasquillo Apolinaris** – Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Felony – 8 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Felony – 8 counts), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 8 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Misdemeanor – 8 counts), Corrupt Organizations (Felony – 2 counts), Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activities (Felony – 1 count), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 18 counts). **Bail was set by MDJ Plachko at \$250,000 straight cash bail.**
2. **Felix Diaz** - Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Felony – 5 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Felony – 5 counts), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 5 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Misdemeanor – 5 counts), Corrupt Organizations (Felony – 2 counts), Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activities (Felony – 1 count), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 5 counts). **Bail was set by MDJ Plachko at \$250,000 straight cash bail.**
3. **Martin Alexander Diaz** - Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Felony – 1 count), Criminal Conspiracy (Felony – 1 count), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 1 count), Criminal Conspiracy (Misdemeanor – 1 count), Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activities (Felony – 2 counts), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 4 counts). **Bail was set by MDJ Plachko at \$50,000 straight cash bail.**
4. **Cassandra Lynn O’Doherty** - Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Felony – 15 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Felony – 15 counts), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 15 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Misdemeanor – 15 counts), Corrupt Organizations (Felony – 2 counts), Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activities (Felony – 1 count), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 20 counts). **Bail was set by MDJ Plachko at \$250,000 straight cash bail.**
5. **Sheila Ann Carter** - Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Felony – 2 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Felony – 2 counts), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 2 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Misdemeanor – 2 counts), Corrupt Organizations (Felony – 2 counts), Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activities (Felony – 1 count), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 5 counts). **Bail was set by MDJ Plachko at \$75,000 straight cash bail. **** Out on bail from previous narcotics charges pending in Schuylkill County Court*******
6. **Christopher Lee Madenford** - Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Felony – 2 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Felony – 1 counts), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 1 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Misdemeanor – 1 counts), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 1 counts). **Bail was set by MDJ Plachko at \$50,000 straight cash bail.**
7. **Sharon Arlene Smith** - Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Felony – 2 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Felony – 2 counts), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 6 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Misdemeanor – 6 counts), Corrupt Organizations (Felony – 2 counts), Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful

Activities (Felony – 1 count), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 6 counts). **Bail was set by MDJ Plachko at \$50,000 straight cash bail.**

8. **Jeremy Gene Wengert** - Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 1 count), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 1 count). **Bail was set by MDJ Plachko at \$25,000 10% bail.**
9. **Douglass K. Huyett** - Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Felony – 1 count), Criminal Conspiracy (Felony – 1 count), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 2 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Misdemeanor – 2 counts), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 2 counts). **Bail was set by MDJ Plachko at \$25,000 10% bail.**
10. **Anthony Harold Catizone** - Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Felony – 2 counts), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 1 count), Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activities (Felony – 1 count), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 1 count). **Bail was set by MDJ Plachko at \$25,000 10% bail.**
11. **Joseph James Ganunis** - Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Felony – 2 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Felony – 2 counts), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 2 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Misdemeanor – 2 counts), Corrupt Organizations (Felony – 2 counts), Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activities (Felony – 1 count), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 3 counts). **Bail was set by MDJ Plachko at \$10,000 10% bail.**
12. **Dennis Cory Shafe** - Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Felony – 1 count), Criminal Conspiracy (Felony – 1 count), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 1 count), Criminal Conspiracy (Misdemeanor – 1 count), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 1 count). **There is an active Arrest Warrant for Shafe, he has not been taken into custody.**

CRIMINAL COMPLAINTS FILED IN LUZERNE COUNTY

13. **Manuel Blijden** – Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Felony – 5 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Felony – 5 counts), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 5 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Misdemeanor – 5 counts), Corrupt Organizations (Felony – 2 counts), Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activities (Felony – 1 count), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 8 counts). **Bail was denied by MDJ James Dixon. Blijden is incarcerated at the Luzerne County Prison.**
14. **Yensi Mateo** – Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Felony – 2 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Felony – 2 counts), Possession of a Controlled Substance (Misdemeanor – 2 counts), Criminal Conspiracy (Misdemeanor – 2 counts), Corrupt Organizations (Felony – 2 counts), Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activities (Felony – 1 count), Criminal Use of Communication Facility (Felony – 2 counts). **Bail was denied by MDJ James Dixon. Mateo is incarcerated at the Luzerne County Prison.**

*****Further investigation of Yensi Mateo revealed that he was "Wanted" by the FBI in Atlanta, Georgia on separate drug trafficking charges. The FBI have placed a detainer on Mateo while he is incarcerated at the Luzerne County Prison.**

- **Additional criminal charges to possibly be filed on suspects pending further investigation of this narcotics corrupt organization that operated within Schuylkill, Luzerne and Berks counties.**