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March 16, 2012

PRESS RELEASE

Grand Jury Witness Arrested for Perjury

Chester County District Attorney Tom Hogan announced the arrest of Erin Taylor. Taylor has been charged with perjury for making a false statement while testifying before the Chester County Grand Jury.

District Attorney Hogan stated, "We will not permit a witness to lie in a grand jury investigation. If a witness lies, the witness is impeding our search for the truth and disrespects the law. A witness who lies to the grand jury will be arrested, prosecuted, and sent to prison."

The allegations from the criminal complaint¹ are as follows:

The defendant is 26 years old. She is a resident of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania.

The arrest of the defendant started with a drug investigation by the Chester County High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area ("HIDTA") group. The HIDTA group was investigating the defendant's boyfriend, Phillip DiMatteo, for dealing cocaine. The HIDTA group received court authorization to intercept phone communications in the investigation. During the wiretap, the HIDTA group intercepted phone conversations between the defendant and her boyfriend. During multiple phone conversations, the defendant discussed a loaded gun in her home, a description of the gun, and actually described unloading the gun.

On September 15, 2011, the defendant testified before the 16th Investigating Grand Jury of Chester County. She was represented by an attorney. When asked about the handgun in her residence, the defendant denied that she ever saw, handled, or unloaded a gun in her residence.

¹ A criminal defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in court.

The defendant's boyfriend subsequently was arrested and charged with drug dealing offenses. The defendant is now charged with perjury, a felony offense.

District Attorney Hogan added, "I prosecuted perjury cases as a federal prosecutor and will continue to do so as the Chester County District Attorney. Associating with a drug dealer is a bad idea. Lying about holding a gun for a drug dealer will land you in prison."

This case was investigated by the Chester County Detectives. Deputy District Attorney Steve Kelly is the assigned prosecutor.

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Approved for release:

Thomas P. Hogan