



DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE OF CHESTER COUNTY

201 WEST MARKET STREET, SUITE 4450
POST OFFICE BOX 2746
WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA 19380-0989

Thomas P. Hogan
District Attorney

TELEPHONE: 610-344-6801
FAX: 610-344-5905

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PRESS RELEASE

Chester County District Attorney Announces Arrest in Drug Overdose Death

Chester County District Attorney Tom Hogan announced the arrest of Joshua Thomas Brown for drug dealing and related offenses following a heroin overdose death in Westtown, Chester County, PA.

District Attorney Hogan stated, "This is a grim reminder that the dangers of drug dealing and drug addiction can penetrate anywhere into Chester County. We need diligent police work to protect our citizens from these dangers even in locations as safe as Westtown Township. The Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department delivered that protection here."

The allegations from the criminal complaints¹ are as follows:

On May 6, 2012, the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department responded to a heroin overdose death of a 26 year old male at the Heather Glen Apartments on West Chester Pike. During the investigation into the drug overdose the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police recovered the deceased's cell phone. The police were able to use the deceased's cell phone to review text messages dealing with the sale of heroin. The police then used this information to arrange an undercover operation for the defendant to deliver more heroin to the same apartment complex.

On June 14, 2012, detectives arrested Joshua Thomas Brown, age 20 of Yeadon, PA, in the parking lot of the Heather Glen Apartments when he arrived to deliver more heroin. The defendant was planning to deliver more heroin, unaware of the prior drug overdose death. Brown had 36 individual bags of heroin in his possession when he was arrested. An additional 43 bags of heroin were found in the car Brown drove to the apartment complex.

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

Brown has been charged with possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia and criminal use of a communication facility for both the May 6 and June 14 incidents. Brown is currently incarcerated in Chester County Prison on \$15,000.00 bail.

Detective Sergeant William Cahill of the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department stated, "The police worked hard to find the person responsible for bringing drugs into our town. We will continue to make sure those who sell drugs in our community are arrested and put out of their deadly business."

The Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department was assisted by the Chester County District Attorney's Office, The Chester County Municipal Drug Task Force, the West Chester Police Department Drug Unit, Goshen Ambulance and the Chester County Coroner's Office.

District Attorney Hogan added, "This was an excellent joint effort spearheaded by the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department. Working together, law enforcement turned a tragic drug overdose death into an arrest of a drug dealer profiting off of addiction."

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Approved for release:

Thomas P. Hogan