

Chester County District Attorney's Office

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NEWS RELEASE

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ROYERSFORD MAN CHARGED WITH OVER \$100K OF DRUGS

The Chester County District Attorney's Office announces the arrest of 34-year-old Joseph Morgan III, of Royersford, for multiple counts of possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance, dealing in proceeds of unlawful activities, endangering the welfare of a child, and related charges. He is being held at Chester County Prison after failing to post the \$100,000 cash bail set by MDJ John Hipple.

On June 17, 2022, Chester County Detectives (CCD), Montgomery County Detectives (MCD), and Upper Providence Police seized over \$100,000 in methamphetamine, prescription pills, Suboxone strips, marijuana, cash, and drug paraphernalia from the defendant's home on Aubrey Circle in Royersford. The defendant lived there with his wife and two young children.

DA Deb Ryan said, "This large bust prevents a serious drug dealer from selling his poison to people in Chester and Montgomery counties. The collaboration between the Chester County HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas)/Drug Strike Force, Montgomery County Detectives and Upper Providence Police was outstanding, and we thank everyone for bringing this drug peddler to justice. Detectives in both counties had their ears to the ground to take down Joseph Morgan, a man with no regard for the lives of others, including his own children, who were within reach of where he kept the drugs. Residents are much safer now that he is off the streets."

The allegations in the complaint are the following¹:

In November 2021, Chester County HIDTA, MCD, and Upper Providence Police, began investigating the defendant's drug trafficking of cocaine, methamphetamine, and marijuana. When the investigation started, the defendant was living in Pottstown, Montgomery County, but moved to Royersford during the course of the investigation. It was at the Royersford house where large quantities of drugs were stored.

Detectives learned that the defendant used social media and a cell phone to conduct drug transactions. Investigators arranged to purchase cocaine by texting the defendant's cell phone.

When the investigators executed a search warrant at the defendant's home on June 17, 2022, they found:

- 20 pounds of methamphetamine
- 17 pounds of marijuana
- Prescription pills
- 178 Suboxone strips
- \$4,000 in cash
- Digital scales and other drug paraphernalia

Investigators discovered the drugs in the kitchen and basement next to his children's toys. The street value of the drugs was estimated at over \$100,000.

A preliminary hearing is set for July 5, 2022.

CCD, MCD, and Upper Providence Police investigated. DDA Michelle Thurstlic O'Neill is the assigned prosecutor.

If you or anyone you know suffers from a substance use disorder, contact law enforcement for help. The Law Enforcement Treatment Initiative (LETI) lets people with substance use disorders use their local police to be connected to treatment at no cost.

¹ A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Approved for release by Deborah Ryan, District Attorney