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PRESS RELEASE

Operation Silent Night -- Round Three

Chester County District Attorney Tom Hogan announced another round of arrests in "Operation Silent Night," an initiative to combat violent crime in Coatesville.

District Attorney Tom Hogan stated, "A year ago, we unleashed Operation Silent Night in Coatesville. Working together, Chester County law enforcement took criminals off the street, developed hard intelligence on criminal organizations, and helped reduce violent crime in Coatesville. Operation Silent Night has been a success not just in solving crimes, but in preventing crimes."

Coatesville Police Chief Jack Laufer stated, "A year ago, Chester County District Attorney Tom Hogan stepped in to fill a void in leadership within the Coatesville City Police Department after recognizing that the City was facing a spike in violent drug related crimes. His dedication of investigative resources from the Chester County Detectives and related task forces, along with the initiation of 'Operation Silent Night,' has resulted in significant progress fighting violent crime within the City of Coatesville. Now that the City Police Department has new leadership and a definitive command structure in place, the idea is to continue to build on the success of 'Operation Silent Night' through continued cooperation between all investigative agencies and improve the quality of life for the good citizens of Coatesville."

Criminal complaints have been filed for the following new defendants:

Carl Anthony Toalton, 22, of Coatesville, PA

Daniel Cheung, 30, of Coatesville, PA

Justin White, 23, of Coatesville, PA

Darryl Naylor, 52, of Coatesville, PA

Toye Aaron Jackson, 36, of Modena, PA

Nakia Clark, 38, of Coatesville, PA

Harold Ford III, 36, of Coatesville, PA

Dequon L. Grove, 24, of Coatesville, PA

Adam Wayne Jackson, 24, of Modena, PA

These defendants have been charged with drug dealing, primarily cocaine and heroin. Harold Ford and Adam Jackson are fugitives. Ford is on federal supervised release from a prior federal conviction.

The District Attorney initiated Operation Silent Night in 2012. At the time, Coatesville had experienced a sharp spike in the number of drug-related homicides, culminating with three homicides in one week. In addition, the Coatesville Police Department was experiencing serious problems, with no chief and severe staffing shortages. Operation Silent Night was designed as a proactive law enforcement tool, attacking the drug dealers and violent criminals who were making the streets of Coatesville unsafe for law-abiding citizens.

Operation Silent Night resulted in the arrest of over 30 defendants in the past year. The operation targeted high risk offenders. Defendants were arrested for crimes such as drug dealing, firearms offenses, armed robbery, aggravated assault, and other crimes. In addition, these arrests led to valuable intelligence on homicides and other criminal investigations.

One year later, Operation Silent Night has proven its worth. Coatesville has not experienced a single homicide in 2013. Moreover, the Coatesville City Council appointed Chief Jack Laufer to lead the Coatesville Police Department. Chief Laufer has assembled a new command staff and set about reforming the department.

Operation Silent Night is a comprehensive operation spear-headed by the Chester County District Attorney's Office Drug Unit and Chester County Detectives, working with the Coatesville Police Department, Pennsylvania State Police, and officers from the Chester County High Intensity Drug Trafficking Strike Force ("HIDTA") and the Chester County Municipal Drug Task Force (the "MDTF"). MDTF officers from the following police departments participated: West Goshen, Downingtown, West Chester, West Whiteland, Kennett Square, Tredyffrin, North Coventry, and Westtown-East Goshen Regional. The Chester County Fugitive Task Force and the Western Chester County Emergency Response Team also assisted in specialized operations.

District Attorney Hogan added, "Operation Silent Night is a sophisticated operation and a model for combating a spike in violent crime. But there is no substitute for a strong police chief and aggressive patrol officers. Chief Laufer and the Coatesville police officers deserve the lion's share of the praise for doing excellent work every day on the streets of Coatesville."

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Approved for release:

Thomas P. Hogan