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PRESS RELEASE

**Inmate Caught Smuggling
Heroin Into Chester County Prison**

Chester County District Attorney Tom Hogan announced the arrest of defendant Jarrett Mason for smuggling heroin into Chester County Prison and distributing the heroin to another inmate.

District Attorney Hogan stated, "Desperate people do dangerous and dumb things. The scourge of heroin hits everywhere, from streets to homes to prisons. This defendant just made a bad situation for himself much, much worse."

The facts alleged in the criminal complaint are as follows:¹

The defendant originally was arrested on drug charges in Phoenixville on July 15, 2016. Based on a review of video recordings, the defendant managed to hide heroin in his hair when he was arrested. The defendant was committed to Chester County Prison.

On July 19, 2016, another inmate at the prison reported that the defendant was distributing heroin in the prison. The defendant was searched by correctional officers and the heroin was recovered. The defendant had been hiding the heroin inside his body.

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

The defendant has been charged with the felony offenses of furnishing contraband and drug dealing in a prison, as well as related charges.

This case was investigated by the Chester County Detectives and the Chester County Prison Intelligence Unit.

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Approved for release:

Thomas P. Hogan