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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

STATE V. ARTHUR ARMSTEAD

Prosecutor Jennifer Webb-McRae announces:

A Cumberland County grand jury returned an indictment on Wednesday, January 31, 2024 charging Arthur Armstead, age 30, of Elmer Avenue in Fairfield Township, with one count of first degree Conspiracy to Commit Murder, two counts of first degree Murder, and other related offenses in connection with the deaths of Kevin Elliott and Brailyn Holmes and injuries sustained by three other shooting victims.

At approximately 11:45 PM on May 22, 2021, members of the New Jersey State Police responded to report of a mass shooting incident at a party attended by hundreds of people at a residence on East Commerce Street in Fairfield Township. The gunfire that erupted resulted in the deaths of three victims and injuries to eleven others ranging from minor to serious gunshot wounds. Armstead was previously charged and indicted for Obstruction, Hindering Apprehension, and Conspiracy in connection with the investigation for his actions after the incident. As part of that indictment, it was alleged that Armstead fled to Delaware in the hours after the shooting where he stayed for several days with a paramour. Thereafter, he was transported to Atlantic City where he took refuge in a casino hotel. Armstead subsequently turned himself in to members of the State Police at the Bridgeton barracks.

The investigation has been continuing since May 2021 and information was recently developed directly implicating Armstead in the shooting which resulted in the above-referenced additional charges being authorized. A date for Armstead's arraignment on the January indictment is pending.

****If this press release involves the charging, accusation or indictment of a criminal defendant, same is merely an accusation. The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.***

Senior Trial Attorney/Assistant Prosecutor Charles Wettstein is handling the prosecution for the State. The investigation in this matter is continuing. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the New Jersey State Police – Bridgeton Station Criminal Investigations Office at 856-451-0106 or the Cumberland County Prosecutor's Office Major Crimes Unit at 856-453-0486. Tips can be made anonymously by visiting www.ccpo.tips