



NEWS RELEASE

Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes
Passaic County Prosecutor's Office
401 Grand Street
Paterson, NJ 07505
(973) 881-4800

ARREST MADE IN CONNECTION WITH APRIL 24, 2018 SHOOTING INVESTIGATION

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

MAY 3, 2018

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes and Paterson Police Chief Troy Oswald announce that based upon an investigation by the Paterson Police Department, in conjunction with the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office, Jose A. Morales 37 years-old of Paterson, New Jersey, was arrested on May 2, 2018 in relation to a shooting incident that took place April 24, 2018 in the area of Main and Weiss Street Paterson, NJ and for weapons offenses that took place April 23, 2018 in the area of Main and Weiss Street Paterson, NJ

Mr. Morales is charged with Attempted Murder, First Degree, Unlawful Possession of a Handgun, Second Degree (2 counts); Possession of a Handgun for an Unlawful Purpose, Second Degree, Certain Persons Not to Have Weapons, Second Degree (2 counts) and Unlawful Possession of a Weapon, First Degree (2 counts) in relation to the April 24, 2018 incident.

Mr. Morales is also charged with Unlawful Possession of a Handgun, Second Degree; Certain Persons Not to Have Weapons, Second Degree and Unlawful Possession of Weapon, First Degree in relation to an incident that occurred on April 23, 2018.

On April 24, 2018, members of the Paterson Police Department responded to the area of Main and Weiss Street Paterson, NJ on a report of shots fired. Upon arrival the police located a possible crime scene, but were unable to locate a victim. A short time later, the police were notified that a 21-year-old male Jersey City resident had arrived at Saint Joseph's Regional Medical Center in Paterson for treatment of non-fatal gunshot wounds. Based on the investigation Mr. Morales was additionally charged for an incident that occurred April 23, 2018 in the area of Main and Weiss Street Paterson, NJ. Mr. Morales was arrested on May 2, 2018 in the area of Dale Avenue Paterson, NJ.

The sentencing exposure for Mr. Morales on First Degree Attempted Murder is 10-20 years New Jersey State Prison with 85% of those terms to be served before parole pursuant to the No Early Release Act and 5 years parole supervision; on Second Degree, Unlawful Possession of a Handgun is 5-10 years New Jersey State Prison with a minimum of 42 months before parole eligibility pursuant to the Graves Act; on Second Degree Possession of a Weapon for an Unlawful Purpose it is 5-10 years New Jersey State Prison with 42 months of parole ineligibility pursuant to the Graves Act; on Second Degree Certain Persons not to Possess a Firearm it is 5-10 years New Jersey State Prison with 5 years of parole ineligibility pursuant to the Graves Act; and on First

Degree, Unlawful Possession of a Handgun is 10-20 years New Jersey State Prison with a minimum of 42 months before parole eligibility pursuant to the Graves Act

Jose A. Morales is scheduled to appear at Central Judicial Processing on May 3, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. The State intends to file a motion for pretrial detention in this matter that will be heard by a Superior Court Judge.

A criminal complaint is merely an accusation. Despite this accusation, defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

The Passaic County Prosecutor's Office asks anyone with additional information about this incident to contact us on our tips line at 1-877-370-PCPO or tips@passaiccountynj.org or contact the Paterson Police Ceasefire Unit at 973-321-1342.

For media inquiries concerning this case, contact Senior Assistant Prosecutor Seth Galkin of the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office at sgalkin@passaiccountynj.org or at (973) 881-4849.



(Photo: Jose A. Morales)