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31CHARGED IN MAJOR DRUG SWEEP FOLLOWING UNDERCOVER INVESTIGATION AT JAMAICA HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

80 Undercover Drug Buys Made; Some Within Drug-Free School Zone

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown and Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly today announced the indictment of sixteen individuals and the arrest of fifteen others on a variety of drug-related charges as part of a large scale undercover narcotics investigation at the Baisley Park Housing Development in Jamaica, Queens.

The defendants – who range in age from 18 to 58 – are charged with selling powdered and crack cocaine, heroin and marihuana to undercover police officers on more than 80 separate occasions over a seven-month period in and around the Baisley Park Houses. Eight of the defendants are charged with at least one count of selling drugs within a drug-free school zone.

Queens District Attorney Brown said, "We anticipate these arrests will put a significant dent in the drug trafficking and drug-related violence that has long plagued the area. These individuals are alleged to have operated with near impunity – selling drugs close to their own homes, while a seemingly defiant few are alleged to have sold their products near the High School for Law Enforcement and Public Safety. All mistakenly thought that they were operating under wraps when they allegedly sold their illicit drugs to undercover officers. In fact, they were under investigation and marked for arrest, prosecution and long prison sentences."

Commissioner Kelly said, "There are nearly four thousand residents of the Baisley Park Houses and the South Jamaica Houses. The work of these and other Police Officers will continue to make life better for all of them."

The investigation began last summer when detectives assigned to the NYPD's Queens Narcotics Division received information that drug dealers were engaged in operations around the Baisley Park Houses. In response, the NYPD's Queens Narcotics Division and District Attorney Brown's Narcotics Investigation Bureau dispatched numerous undercover officers to purchase crack and powdered cocaine, heroin and marihuana. During the course of the investigation, undercover officers purchased narcotics on over 80 separate occasions.

In addition to the arrests, officers executed five court-authorized search warrants and recovered 2 ounces of cocaine, 8 ounces of marihuana , $2,000 in cash, two 9mm handguns, two shotguns and a .38 caliber revolver that had been thrown from an apartment window as police executed an arrest.

The Baisley Park Housing Development, located at 164-01 Foch Boulevard in Jamaica, Queens, is part of the New York City Housing Authority's network of housing developments. The Baisley Park Houses were completed in 1961 and consist of five eight-story building s in which 1,003 people reside in 378 apartments.

The indicted defendants are variously charged in twelve separate indictments with numerous counts of Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Second Degree, a Class A II felony punishable by up to ten years in prison; Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree and Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance In or Near School Grounds, both Class B felonies, each punishable by up to nine years in prison; and Criminal Sale of Marihuana in the Fourth Degree, a Class A misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in jail. The other defendants have been arrested

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and various charged with Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree and Criminal Sale of Marihuana in the Fourth Degree.

The investigation was conducted by detectives of the New York City Police Department's Queens Narcotics Division under the command of Inspector Robert Napolitano, including Sergeant Ronald Torres, Detectives Duane Shepard, Russell Myers, Harold Thomas, Frank Bleier and Michael Pecoraro and Police Officer Kenneth Rice under the supervision of Sergeant Keith DeGiorgio, Lieutenant Brian Kelly and Captain Steven Zolga, under the overall supervision of Assistant Deputy Chief Edmund Hartnett, Executive Officer, Narcotics Division, and Chief Anthony Izzo, Commanding Officer, Organized Crime Control Bureau.

Assisting in the investigation from District Attorney Brown's Narcotics Investigation Bureau were Assistant District Attorney Philip D. Anderson and Paralegal Harvey W. Kleinfeld.

The cases are being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Paul E. Cardon and Brian F. Allen, of the District Attorney's Narcotics Investigation Bureau, under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Wilbert J. LeMelle, Bureau Chief, Karen J. Friedman, Deputy Bureau Chief, and Mark L. Katz, Supervisor, and the overall supervision of Executive District Attorney for Investigations Peter A. Crusco and Deputy Executive Assistant District Attorney for Investigations Linda M. Cantoni.

It should be noted that indictments and criminal complaints are merely accusations and that defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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INDICTED DEFENDANTS ARRESTED (7)

SEAN BARTEE (a/k/a Shawn Burke), 21, of 116-40 Guy Brewer Boulevard in Jamaica, Queens.
KARIM BURKE, 19, of 108-01 160th Street in Queens.
JACQUELINE DAVIS, 46, of 116-48 147th Street in Jamaica, Queens.
SHAHEE HOGAN, 24, of 116-31 157th Street in Jamaica, Queens.
JOSEPH NASH, 32, of 116-40 Guy Brewer Boulevard in Jamaica, Queens.
KIM PERKINS, 48, of 163-07 109th Avenue in Jamaica, Queens.
BRIAN TINDLEY, 25, of 116-25 Marsden Street in Jamaica, Queens.

UNINDICTED DEFENDANTS ARRESTED (15)

VICTOR BURKE, 18, of 108-01 160th Street in Jamaica, Queens.
ETHAN GUIENT, 36, of 164-01 Foch Boulevard in Jamaica, Queens.
DAGMAR HERNANDEZ, 51, of 163-11 Foch Boulevard in Jamaica, Queens.
KENDALL KELLY, 27, of 164-01 Foch Boulevard in Jamaica, Queens.
TEMIAS McDANIEL, 21, o 110-34 Union Hall Street in Jamaica, Queens.
LAVIANETTE PECK, 27, of 163-11 Foch Boulevard in Jamaica, Queens.
TERRANCE PECK, 27, of 163-11 Foch Boulevard in Jamaica, Queens.
ANTHONY PITT, 42, of 116-40 Guy Brewer Boulevard in Jamaica, Queens.
KENDRA POWELL, 38, of 164-01 Foch Boulevard in Jamaica, Queens.
KEVIN POWELL, 19, of 164-01 Foch Boulevard in Jamaica, Queens.
ALFONSO SCOTT, 43, of 163-11 Foch Boulevard in Jamaica, Queens.
JOHN SMITH, 58, of (no address given)
STANLEY SPENCER, 18, of 116-30 Guy Brewer Boulevard in Jamaica, Queens.
BEVERLY WATSON, 49, of (no address given)
RAYMOND WATTS, 21, of 110-34 Union Hall Street in Jamaica, Queens.