OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR COUNTY OF WARREN

413 Second Street, Belvidere, New Jersey 07823 Phone: (908) 475-6275; Fax: (908) 475-6344

ANTHONY A. PICIONE ACTING COUNTY PROSECUTOR

KEVIN R. BROTZMAN
Acting Chief Assistant Prosecutor
WENDY H. RILEY
Manager



BRENTON S. WARNE
Acting Chief of Detectives
MELISSA A. FEHR
Acting Deputy Chief of Detectives

PRESS RELEASE - UPDATE

On August 21, 2024, in the furtherance of this investigation, a search warrant was executed on the vehicle being driven by Sean Mamakas on the date of his arrest, August 13, 2024. The search of the motor vehicle yielded suspected Methamphetamine and plastic bags consistent with those utilized to package controlled dangerous substances (narcotics). As a result, Sean Mamakas was additionally charged with the following crimes:

- 1) Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-10a(1), a crime of the third degree.
- 2) Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:36-2, a disorderly persons offense.

The charges are merely accusations. The defendant is presumed innocent **until and unless** proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

Sean Mamakas remains lodged in the Warren County Correctional Center.

ARRESTED:

SEAN MAMAKAS 32 DOG STREET

KEMPTON, PENNSYLVANIA

AGE: 32

On Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at approximately 10:19 am a New Jersey State Trooper began following a sport utility vehicle on Interstate 80 eastbound in the area of milepost 11, to effectuate a motor vehicle stop. The SUV continued traveling eastbound and exited the interstate at Exit 12, and traveled onto County Road 521 southbound, Hope Township, Warren County. At approximately 10:20 a.m., in an attempt to elude the State Police the SUV collided with a motorcycle who was also traveling south on CR 521 in the vicinity of Dogwood Road.

The impact resulted in the motorcycle operator being ejected, and resulted in the driver of the SUV losing control of his vehicle. The SUV left the roadway and came to final rest in a wooded area.

Medical aid was administered to the motorcycle operator, who unfortunately succumbed to his injuries at the scene. The motorcycle operator has been identified as Michael Ceddia of Hackettstown, New Jersey. The operator of the SUV, Sean Mamakas, was arrested on scene, treated for his injuries, and lodged in the Warren County Correctional Center pending his first court appearance.

Sean Mamakas was charged with the following crimes:

- 1) Aggravated Manslaughter, by recklessly causing the death of another under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to human life, specifically by operating a motor vehicle in a reckless fashion thereby striking the victim's motorcycle, ejecting the victim, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:11-4a(1), a crime of the first degree.
- 2) Aggravated Manslaughter, did cause the death of the victim while fleeing or attempting to elude a law enforcement officer, specifically by ignoring signals from law enforcement to stop his vehicle and subsequently striking the victim's motorcycle and ejecting the victim, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:11-4a(2), a crime of the first degree.
- 3) Eluding, while operating a motor vehicle on the roadways of this state, knowingly flee or attempt to elude a law enforcement officer after having received a signal to stop, and by such conduct, created a risk of death or serious injury to a person, specifically by failing to stop his Ford Explorer on Interstate 80 when signaled to do so by the New Jersey State Police and subsequently struck a motorcyclist, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:29-2b, a crime of the second degree.
- 4) Aggravated Assault, by causing bodily injury to the victim while operating a motor vehicle on a roadway of this state while knowingly fleeing or attempting to elude a law enforcement officer after having received a signal to stop, specifically by ignoring signals from a New Jersey State Police vehicle to stop and subsequently struck the victim's motorcycle, ejecting the victim, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:12-1b(6), a crime of the second degree.
- 5) Vehicular Homicide, by operating a motor vehicle recklessly and causing the death of the victim, specifically by striking the motorcycle causing the victim to be ejected, resulting in his death, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:11-5a, a crime of the second degree.

First degree Aggravated Manslaughter crimes carry a maximum sentence of 30 years in New Jersey State Prison, and second degree crimes carry a maximum sentence of 10 years in New Jersey State Prison.

The charges are merely accusations. The defendant is presumed innocent **until and unless** proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

This investigation is being conducted by the Warren County Prosecutor's Office in conjunction with the New Jersey State Police.

Brenton Warne

Acting Chief of Detectives