

Matthew D. Fogal
District Attorney
Lauren E. Sulcove
First Assistant District Attorney
Timothy D. Wilmot
Assistant District Attorney
Laura J. Kerstetter
Assistant District Attorney
Ricky W. Lewis
Assistant District Attorney



Tiffany A. Watson
Assistant District Attorney
Clark A. Stiteler
Assistant District Attorney
Rosby M. Carr
Assistant District Attorney
Julianne E. Bateman
Assistant District Attorney
Nichole L. Vito
Assistant District Attorney

157 Lincoln Way East
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania 17201
Phone: (717) 261-3827 Fax: (717) 261-3832
Telecommunication Device for the Deaf: (717) 264-8474

PRESS RELEASE

March 1, 2017

Charles Lynch Heroin Organization

Over the past several months, the Pennsylvania State Police in conjunction with the Franklin County Drug Task Force have been conducting an investigation into the large scale trafficking of heroin into the Franklin County area by Charles Lynch's Drug Trafficking Organization ("DTO"). During this investigation, investigators conducted hours of surveillance, utilized tracking devices, conducted controlled buys, analyzed cell phones, and conducted numerous interviews of confidential informants, cooperating defendants, and other persons involved with the use and/or distribution of heroin in the Franklin County area. Through this extensive investigation they determined that Charles Lynch was the head of a drug trafficking organization responsible for bringing significant quantities of heroin into the Franklin County area and involving, among others, Susan Hollabaugh, Kevin Paul, Kelly Paul, Richard Danzberger, and Brandi Bechtel. They were also able to link the organization to the death of Mark Charles Keefer who overdosed on heroin and died on November 5, 2016.

From an operational standpoint, the organization functioned as follows: Charles Lynch and his girlfriend Susan Hollabaugh would make weekly trips to the Philadelphia area for the purposes of purchasing significant quantities of heroin with an average street value of \$20,000 to bring back to Franklin County. These purchases were made using proceeds traceable to heroin sales within Franklin County. The purchased heroin would be stored in a safe located within the joint residence of Lynch and Hollabaugh in Fayetteville. Lynch and Hollabaugh would then "front" heroin to Richard Danzberger and Kevin Paul who would in turn distribute the heroin to users and other sellers operating within the Franklin County area. Danzberger and Paul were paid in cash, heroin, or sometimes a combination of the two. The proceeds from the sales of heroin would eventually flow back to Lynch and Hollabaugh. Once sufficient funds were accumulated, Lynch and Hollabaugh would make their trip to Philadelphia to purchase additional quantities.

PRESS RELEASE: Charles Lynch Heroin Organization
March 1, 2017

In mid-November of 2016, the operating procedures for the Lynch DTO changed as a result of Lynch being arrested in Ohio for Possession with Intent to Deliver Heroin and Danzberger also being arrested in Franklin County also for Possession with Intent to Deliver Heroin. Utilizing the inmate phones at the Franklin County Jail, Lynch continued to direct the operation of the organization. Specifically, he directed Hollabaugh to continue the weekly trips to Philadelphia to make bulk purchases of heroin. Lynch further directed Hollabaugh to move two safes from their current residence to the residence of Kevin and Kelly Paul at 2250 Lincoln Way East, Fayetteville, PA. Kevin Paul at this time assumed the role of driving Hollabaugh to Philadelphia in place of Lynch. Paul also became the primary drug dealer utilized by the organization. When Kevin Paul was not at the residence, Kelly Paul would sell the heroin provided by Hollabaugh. Under the new structure, Hollabaugh would stop by Kevin and Kelly Paul's residence daily to collect money and provide additional heroin to Kevin Paul to sell. Kevin and Kelly Paul were paid in cash, heroin, or sometimes a combination of the two. The organization continued to operate in this manner until December 2, 2016, when members of Pennsylvania State Police and Franklin County Drug Task Force interdicted Kevin Paul and Susan Hollabaugh while returning from Philadelphia with a substantial quantity of heroin in their vehicle.

Charles Lynch was charged with operating a Corrupt Organization, conspiring with others in the operation of a Corrupt Organization, Drug Delivery Resulting in Death, Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activity, Possession with Intent to Deliver Heroin, Conspiracy to Commit Possession with Intent to Deliver Heroin, and Criminal Use of a Communication Facility.

Susan Hollabaugh was charged with operating a Corrupt Organization, conspiring with others in the operation of a Corrupt Organization, Drug Delivery Resulting in Death, Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activity, and Criminal Use of a Communication Facility.

Richard Danzberger was charged with being employed by a Corrupt Organization, conspiring with others in the operation of a Corrupt Organization, Drug Delivery Resulting in Death, Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activity, and Criminal Use of a Communication Facility.

Brandi Bechtel was charged with conspiring with others in the operation of a Corrupt Organization, Drug Delivery Resulting in Death, Delivery of Heroin, and Criminal Use of a Communication Facility.

Kevin Paul was charged with being employed by a Corrupt Organization, conspiring with others in the operation of a Corrupt Organization, Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activity, and Criminal Use of a Communication Facility.

Kelly Paul was charged with being employed by a Corrupt Organization, conspiring with others in the operation of a Corrupt Organization, Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activity, and Criminal Use of a Communication Facility.

The following agencies participated in this investigation: Pennsylvania State Police – Troop H Vice Unit, Shippensburg Borough Police, Chambersburg Borough Police, Franklin County District Attorney's Office, and the Pennsylvania State Police – Chambersburg Patrol Unit.

PRESS RELEASE: Charles Lynch Heroin Organization
March 1, 2017

Anyone with information regarding this investigation or other drug activity occurring within Franklin County is asked to contact the Franklin County Drug Task Force at 1-800-344-3127 or by email at tips@drugtaskforce.org. Anonymous tips may also be submitted through our website: www.drugtaskforce.org. All information provided is confidential and callers may remain anonymous if they wish.

**NOTE: The defendants are accused of the above offenses, and readers are reminded that all defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.*