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June 17, 2016

## Press Release - Franklin County Drug Task Force Search Warrant Executions on Arrest of Heroin Dealers on June 15, 2016

At approximately 6:00 AM on 6/15/2016, two search warrants were executed in Franklin County by members of the Franklin County Drug Task Force and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration. The search warrants were both obtained as part of an ongoing investigation into the distribution of heroin in Franklin County.

One search warrant was executed at the Rite Spot Motel, 5651 Lincoln Way East, Room 40, in Greene Township. This room was occupied by George Elie Jr, a/k/a 'Unc," who had been identified during the course of this investigation as a supplier of bulk quantities of heroin and the leader of a heroin drug trafficking organization ("DTO") in Franklin County. During the course of this investigation, investigators determined that Elie Jr. stayed at various motels, which were used to distribute heroin. During the search of Elie Jr.'s room, investigators found crack cocaine, marijuana, heroin, digital scales, drug paraphernalia, and a loaded handgun.

Another search warrant was executed at 529 Oak Street, in the Borough of Chambersburg. This is the residence of Franklin Allen Weston, a/k/a "Nitty." Inside Weston's residence, investigators found heroin, marijuana, and drug paraphernalia. Investigators determined, during the course of this investigation, that Weston was one of several individuals who obtained heroin from Elie Jr. and the redistributed the heroin in the Chambersburg area.

Press Release - Franklin County Drug Task Force Search Warrant Executions on Arrest of Heroin Dealers on June 15, 2016 June 17, 2016

Elie Jr. was arrested at his motel room and charged with one count of Unlawful Delivery of a Controlled Substance, resulting from an incident that occurred in the Borough of Chambersburg on

5/5/2016. While under police surveillance, Elie Jr. met with a co-conspirator and delivered a large quantity of heroin, in exchange for U.S. currency.

Weston was arrested at his residence and charged with one count of Unlawful Delivery of a Controlled Substance, resulting from an incident that occurred in the Borough of Chambersburg on 4/12/2016. While under police surveillance, Weston met with a confidential informant and delivered a quantity of heroin in exchange for U.S. currency.

Weston and Elie Jr. were both arraigned by Magisterial District Judge Glenn Manns and subsequently committed to the Franklin County Jail in lieu of \$300,000 bond. Their preliminary hearings are scheduled for 1:00 PM on 06/28/2016 at Franklin County Central Court.

This investigation was conducted by the Chambersburg Borough Police Department, Shippensburg Borough Police Department, Pennsylvania State Police, Franklin County District Attorney's Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation - Capitol City Safe Streets Task Force, and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration – Harrisburg Resident Office.

Additional co-conspirators associated with the George Elie Jr. DTO have been identified by state and federal investigators, and additional arrests are anticipated, as a result of this investigation.

Anyone with additional information regarding this investigation or information on 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: <a href="www.drugtaskforce.org">www.drugtaskforce.org</a>. All information provided is confidential and callers may remain anonymous if they wish.

Press Release - Franklin County Drug Task Force Search Warrant Executions on Arrest of Heroin Dealers on June 15, 2016 June 17, 2016



George Robert Elie, Jr., a/k/a "Unc"

**39 YOA** 

Place of Birth: New York

LKA: 5651 Lincoln Way East, Room 40

Fayetteville, PA 17222



Franklin Allen Weston, a/k/a: "Nitty"

45 YOA

Place of Birth: Maryland

LKA: 529 Oak Street Chambersburg, PA 17201

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