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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**HENRY DIAZ-AYALA, 39, OF PHILADELPHIA SOUGHT IN THE JAN 23<sup>RD</sup>  
MURDER IN NORRISTOWN; *Public's help is needed***



**HENRY DIAZ-AYALA**

NORRISTOWN (Feb. 11, 2019) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and Norristown Police Chief Mark E. Talbot Sr. announce that an arrest warrant has been issued for Henry Diaz-Ayala, 39, of Philadelphia, for First-Degree Murder and related charges in the shooting death of Ralph Williams, 66, and the shooting of another male inside their home in the 500 block of Cherry Street in Norristown on Jan. 23. Diaz-Ayala is considered armed and dangerous.

Diaz-Ayala is wanted for the murder and robbery in a Norristown home invasion on Jan. 23. At 9:17 p.m., Norristown Police responded to 534 Cherry Street for a reported shooting. Arriving officers found Williams, who was dead from gunshots, and a second

male suffering from a gunshot wound. Both men were located on the second floor of the residence. Officers also noted a blood trail in the house, through the rear kitchen door and into Maple Alley, consistent with someone bleeding as they fled the residence.

The Montgomery County Detective Bureau and Norristown Police launched a joint investigation. Detectives secured surveillance video from behind the Cherry Street residence, which showed a Chevrolet Impala with a missing driver's side hubcap driving on Maple Alley without headlights and parking behind 534 Cherry Street. Then three men exited the vehicle. The Chevrolet Impala leaves the scene minutes after the 911 call is made. Approximately 30 minutes later, at 9:46 p.m., Philadelphia Police were notified that a male, later identified as Diaz-Ayala, suffering from stab wounds was being treated at Temple University Hospital.

Diaz-Ayala was released from the hospital and is now being sought by law enforcement. He is a Hispanic male, 5 feet, 5 inches tall, approximately 170 pounds. He is recovering from stab wounds to his right chest, right arm and face.

“Henry Diaz-Ayala possesses a firearm and has used it to kill. We believe he knows he is being sought for this murder and is on the run—and therefore very dangerous,” said Steele. “If anyone sees Diaz-Ayala, do not approach him. Call 911.”

The homicide investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information regarding this homicide should contact Norristown Police at 610-270-0977 or Montgomery County Detectives at 610-278-3368. Or anonymous tips can be texted using MontcoCrimeTips on the STOPit! app. The free STOPit! app can be downloaded from the App Store for iPhones or on Google Play for Androids, then enter the code: MONTCOPA. All text tips are completely confidential.

Approved for release:

Kevin R. Steele

*CRIMINAL CHARGES, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF, ARE MERELY ALLEGATIONS AND ALL DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.*