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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **WILMINGTON, DEL. MAN ARRESTED FOR DRUG DELIVERY RESULTING IN DEATH IN AUG. 21st OVERDOSE DEATH IN HAVERFORD**



**DARRYL BROWN JR.**

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Jan. 12, 2021) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and Lower Merion Township Police Superintendent Michael J. McGrath announce the arrest of Darryl Brown Jr., 32, of Wilmington, Del., for Drug Delivery Resulting in Death related to the Aug. 21, 2020 death of 23-year-old Emma Allen in the Haverford section of Lower Merion Township.

On Friday, Aug. 21, 2020, at approximately 12:50 p.m., Lower Merion Police were dispatched to the Casa Del Sol Apartments on Lancaster Avenue in Haverford for a reported cardiac arrest. Officers arrived to find Allen on the living room floor, already deceased. Inside the apartment, police found a ceramic plate containing lines of a powder, a credit card and a rolled-up \$20 bill.

The ensuing joint investigation by Lower Merion Township Police and Montgomery County Detectives found through a search of the victim's phone and through interviews that she had arranged via text to purchase a gram of cocaine and two ecstasy (MDMA) pills for \$142 from Brown on the evening of Aug. 20, 2020. The defendant texted that he would arrive at a parking lot next to her apartment building at 9:30 p.m. A review of Allen's CashApp account showed that she sent the \$142 to the defendant's account. On Aug. 21, 2020, detectives arranged the same buy and

arrested the defendant for Possession With Intent to Deliver (PWID) when he showed up at the meet location. At the time of his arrest, Brown was in possession of a clear plastic bag of white powder, pills and marijuana.

National Medical Services tested the contents on the plate and the residue on the rolled-up \$20 bill and credit card found in the victim's apartment and determined they contained fentanyl and heroin. NMS also tested the powder found on the defendant at the time of his arrest and found it contained fentanyl and heroin while the pills seized during his arrest were found to be methamphetamine.

"This defendant was selling bags of illicit drugs as cocaine that did not contain any cocaine and instead contained the even deadlier fentanyl and heroin, while the ecstasy pills he was selling were actually methamphetamine. This should be of great concern to drug users," said Steele. "It is truly 'buyer beware' as there is no guarantee that what a drug dealer says he is selling is actually what is being sold. Law enforcement in Montgomery County will continue to hold drug dealers accountable for selling the deadly drugs that kill people."

The Montgomery County Coroner's Office performed an autopsy on Allen's body on Aug. 22, 2020. Following the autopsy and results of toxicology tests, Forensic Pathologist Dr. Fredric Hellman ruled on Nov. 13, 2020 that the cause of death was drug intoxication from fentanyl and methamphetamine.

Brown was arrested today and arraigned on the new charge before Magisterial District Judge Karen Eisner Zucker, who set bail at \$500,000. Brown was unable to make bail and was remanded to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility. A preliminary hearing was set for 11:30 a.m., on Jan. 22, 2021, before Judge Zucker.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Roderick Fancher III.

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.*