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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL 8, 2015

Arrest Made In Cheltenham LaMott Fire Company Hostage Situation



Montgomery County District Attorney Risa Vetri Ferman and Cheltenham Township Police Chief John Norris announce the filing of Kidnapping, Aggravated and Simple Assault, Terroristic Threats, Discharge of a Firearm in an Occupied Structure and related offenses against Paul Jordan. These charges stem from the March 31, 2015 hostage situation inside the LaMott Fire Company in Cheltenham Township.

The night before this event, Jordan was expelled from the Firehouse by its Board of Governors. At approximately 10:35 a.m. the next day, Jordan returned to the Firehouse, gained entry, and went to the basement of the Firehouse. There Jordan immediately engaged in an argument with one of the members before pulling a handgun from his waist. At gunpoint, Jordan ordered the firefighters to the ground. A few of the men were able to escape, but Jordan held four firefighters hostage.

At approximately 10:40 a.m., police were dispatched to the LaMott Firehouse for a call of an armed subject with hostages who was monitoring the police radio. The 911 call was placed by a member of the Fire Company that was able to escape. Cheltenham Township SWAT officers were summoned and an "Immediate Action Team" took position.

During the ordeal, Jordan forced his hostages to empty their pockets and sit on the floor along the wall. Jordan waved the firearm around, pointing it at the hostages, and repeatedly told one of the hostages that he was going to kill him. Jordan did fire one round which hit the wall approximately 6 inches from the head of one of the men.

The hostages talked Jordan into allowing one of the men to leave the basement before they were ultimately able to convince Jordan to unload his firearm and exit the Firehouse. Jordan was immediately taken into custody by the Cheltenham Township Police Department at approximately 12:00 p.m.

On April 7, 2015 the defendant had a preliminary arraignment and his bail was set at \$1.5 million. The Preliminary Hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday April 21st at 10:30 am at District Court 38-1-03 located at 8230 Old York Rd, Elkins Park, PA 19027. The preliminary hearing will be before the Magisterial District Judge Christopher Cerski.

Assistant District Attorneys Lauren McNulty and Brianna Ringwood are assigned to prosecute the case.

Approved for release:

Risa Vetri Ferman

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