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INMATE JOSEPH HODUM CHARGED WITH ATTEMPTED MURDER FOR ATTACK ON CELLMATE AT COUNTY PRISON



JOSEPH HODUM

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (April 4, 2019)—Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele announced the arrest of Joseph Michael Hodum, 38, of Philadelphia, on charges of Attempted Murder, Aggravated Assault, Assault by a Prisoner and other charges related to a March 30, 2019, attack on cellmate Stephen Klampfer, 50, of Norristown, while both were in the medical area of the Montgomery County Correctional Facility.

On Saturday morning, March 30, the Montgomery County Detective Bureau was contacted by administrators from the Montgomery County Correctional Facility regarding an attack by one inmate on another. County Detectives launched an investigation, which revealed that at 8:27 a.m., inmate and defendant Hodum was standing at his cell door yelling while the victim was lying face up on his bunk in the locked cell. The defendant left the cell door and began punching the victim in the head multiple times, before the victim appeared to move himself to the floor to escape the attack. The defendant continued the attack by raising his knee and stomping on

the victim's head more than 20 times, continuing after the victim lost consciousness and until MCCF correctional officers intervened.

The victim was airlifted by helicopter to Penn Presbyterian Medical Center in Philadelphia where he remains in critical condition. The victim suffered severe brain injury with hemorrhage all over the brain including the brain stem and is in a medically induced coma on life support.

Hodum was arraigned today before Magisterial District Judge Cathleen Kelly Rebar, who set bail at \$1 million. The defendant remains in MCCF. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for 10 a.m., May 1, 2019 before Judge Rebar.

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.