

**OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR
COUNTY OF WARREN**

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PRESS RELEASE

**CHARGED & ARRESTED: MARK W. PEARSON
ALPHA, NEW JERSEY
AGE: 42**

On Monday, September 2, 2024, at approximately 10:21 P.M., members of the Phillipsburg and Pohatcong Township Police Departments responded to the area of 513 Third Avenue in Alpha Borough after receiving a report of a male individual throwing an explosive type firework out of his vehicle window. During the course of the investigation, Mark Pearson was identified as the suspect, and shortly thereafter arrested by the Phillipsburg Police Department.

Mark W. Pearson was charged with the offenses below, as a result of the investigation, and is currently being held in the Warren County Correctional Center in Belvidere, New Jersey.

- 1) Unlawful Possession of a Destructive Device, specifically a firework type explosive device, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-3a, a crime of the third degree.
- 2) Contempt of Court, for violating a no contact order entered under the provisions of the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991, specifically by shouting verbal insults to the victim, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:29-9b(1), a crime of the fourth degree.
- 3) Disorderly Conduct, by purposely or recklessly creating a hazardous or dangerous condition which serves no legitimate purpose, specifically by

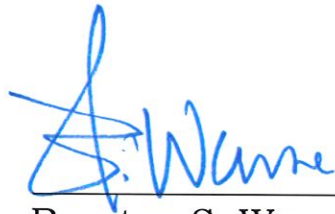
throwing a dangerous explosive device in the parking lot near a local business, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:33-2a(2), a petty disorderly persons offense.

- 4) Certain Persons not to Possess Weapons or Ammunition, specifically by being in possession of a prohibited destructive device, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-7(a), a crime of the fourth degree.

Third degree crimes carry a maximum sentence of 5 years in New Jersey State Prison, fourth degree crimes carry a maximum sentence of 18 months in New Jersey State Prison, and Petty Disorderly Persons offenses carry a maximum sentence of 30 days in the Warren County Correctional Center.

The charges are merely accusations. The defendant is presumed innocent **until and unless** proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

The Pohatcong Township Police Department assisted the Phillipsburg Police Department with the investigation.



Brenton S. Warne
Acting Chief of Detectives

9/13/24
Date