OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR
COUNTY OF WARREN

413 Second Street, Belvidere, New Jersey 07823
Phone: (908) 475-6275; Fax: (908) 475-6344

ANTHONY A. PICIONE
ACTING COUNTY PROSECUTOR

KEVIN R. BROTZMAN
Acting Chief Assistant Prosecutor
WENDY H. RILEY
Manager

BRENTON S. WARNE
Acting Chief of Detectives
MELISSA A. FEHR
Acting Deputy Chief of Detectives

ARRESTED: SEAN MAMAKAS
              32 DOG STREET
              KEMPTON, PENNSYLVANIA
              AGE: 32

On Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at approximately 10:19 a.m., a New Jersey State Trooper began following a sport utility vehicle on Interstate 80 eastbound in the area of milepost 11, to effectuate a motor vehicle stop. After the trooper activated his lights and sirens, the SUV continued traveling eastbound, exited the interstate at Exit 12, and traveled onto County Road 521 southbound, Hope Township, Warren County. At approximately 10:20 a.m., after passing another vehicle on Route 521 southbound, the SUV collided with the rear of a motorcycle that was also traveling south on CR 521 in the vicinity of Dogwood Road.

The impact resulted in the motorcycle operator being ejected, and resulted in the driver of the SUV losing control of his vehicle. The SUV left the roadway and came to final rest in a wooded area.

Medical aid was administered to the motorcycle operator, who unfortunately succumbed to his injuries at the scene. The motorcycle operator has been identified as Michael Ceddia of Hackettstown, New Jersey. The operator of the SUV, Sean Mamakas, was arrested on scene, transported to Hackettstown Medical Center, treated for minor injuries, charged with the following crimes and lodged in the Warren County Correctional Center pending his first court appearance.
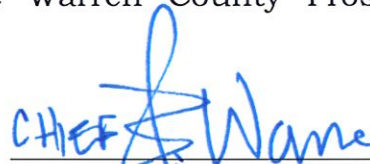
1) Aggravated Manslaughter, by recklessly causing the death of another under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to human life, specifically by operating a motor vehicle in a reckless fashion thereby striking the victim's motorcycle, ejecting the victim, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:11-4a(1), a crime of the first degree.

2) Aggravated Manslaughter, did cause the death of the victim while fleeing or attempting to elude a law enforcement officer, specifically by ignoring signals from law enforcement to stop his vehicle and subsequently striking the victim's motorcycle and ejecting the victim, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:11-4a(2), a crime of the first degree.

1

3) Eluding, while operating a motor vehicle on the roadways of this state, knowingly flee or attempt to elude a law enforcement officer after having received a signal to stop, and by such conduct, created a risk of death or serious injury to a person, specifically by failing to stop his Ford Explorer on Interstate 80 when signaled to do so by the New Jersey State Police and subsequently struck a motorcyclist, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:29-2b, a crime of the second degree.

4) Aggravated Assault, by causing bodily injury to the victim while operating a motor vehicle on a roadway of this state while knowingly fleeing or attempting to elude a law enforcement officer after having received a signal to stop, specifically by ignoring signals from a New Jersey State Police vehicle to stop and subsequently struck the victim's motorcycle, ejecting the victim, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:12-1b(6), a crime of the second degree.

5) Vehicular Homicide, by operating a motor vehicle recklessly and causing the death of the victim, specifically by striking the motorcycle causing the victim to be ejected, resulting in his death, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:11-5a, a crime of the second degree.

First degree Aggravated Manslaughter crimes carry a maximum sentence of 30 years in New Jersey State Prison, and second degree crimes carry a maximum sentence of 10 years in New Jersey State Prison.

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

This investigation is being conducted by the Warren County Prosecutor's Office in conjunction with the New Jersey State Police.

CHIEF Warne   08/15/24
_____   _____
Brenton Warne   Date
Acting Chief of Detectives