

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR

COUNTY OF WARREN

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PRESS RELEASE

CHARGED:

William Pollard
99 Mohican Road
Blairstown, N.J.
DOB: 05/06/1970

On January 16, 2024, Blairstown Police responded to a call for a domestic violence incident in progress at 99 Mohican Road. As a result of the subsequent investigation, William Pollard, 53, was charged with acts of assault related to domestic violence. Consequently, the victim obtained a Temporary Restraining Order which was served on Mr. Pollard. Because the issuance of a Restraining Order requires the surrender of any firearms in the possession of the subject of that Order, law enforcement removed numerous weapons from Mr. Pollard's residence, including several illegal firearms, jigs for modifying firearms, extended magazines, and firearms suppressors, or "silencers".

As a result of these discoveries, a search warrant was executed on the residence. The search revealed additional, unlawful weapons, tools for manufacturing or modifying firearms – including the means to create automatic, or, "machine guns", weapons without serial numbers or "ghost guns", and firearms suppressors – both homemade and purchased.

In total, law enforcement recovered 8 illegal rifles; each of which either contained a collapsible stock and is therefore an "assault rifle", was capable of automatic fire, or was a "ghost gun" without a serial number.

In addition, 4 "ghost" handguns were recovered, 49 high capacity magazines, 5 suppressors, 5 jigs for modifying firearms, and 2 "Auto Sears", which is a device designed to allow an otherwise semi-automatic rifle to fire automatically. Two of these weapons were found underneath the desk of a child living in the residence. It is also alleged that at some point during the initial investigation, Mr. Pollard contacted a neighbor and asked that he remove firearms from the residence.

Mr. Pollard was charged with the following and lodged in the Warren County Jail pending a detention hearing:

- 1 count Aggravated Assault, 2C:12-1(b)12, Third Degree
- 1 count Criminal Restraint, 2C:13-2(a), Third Degree
- 1 count Terroristic Threats, 2C:12-3(b), Third Degree
- 7 counts Possession of an Assault Weapon, 2C:39-5(f), Second Degree
- 4 counts Possession of a Machine Gun, 2C:39-5(a), Second Degree
- 7 counts Possession of a Weapon Without a Serial Number, 2C:39-3(n), Third Degree
- 1 count Possession of a Short Barrel Rifle, 2C:39-3(b) Third Degree
- 9 counts Manufacturing a Firearm, 2C:39-9(d), Fourth Degree
- 1 count Possession of an Extended Firearm Magazine, 2C:39-3(j), Fourth Degree
- 1 count Possession of a Firearm Suppressor, 2C:39-3(c), Fourth Degree
- 1 count Endangering the Welfare of a Child, 2C:24-4(a), Second Degree
- 1 count Hindering Apprehension of Prosecution, 2C:29-3(b)1, Third Degree

Second Degree offenses carry a maximum potential sentence of 10 years in New Jersey State Prison, Third Degree offenses carry a maximum potential sentence of 5 years in New Jersey State Prison. Fourth Degree offenses carry a maximum potential sentence of 18 months in New Jersey State Prison.

The Warren County Prosecutor's Office, Blairstown Police Department, and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms jointly participated in this investigation. Federal charges are also expected to be forthcoming.

Please be advised that the charges are merely accusations and that the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

Approved by:



JAMES L. PFEIFFER
Warren County Prosecutor

Date: January 25, 2024