

Office of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor

RENÉE M. ROBESON
PROSECUTOR

JOSEPH PARAVECCHIA
FIRST ASSISTANT PROSECUTOR



TIMOTHY J. DREW
CHIEF OF DETECTIVES

Justice Center, 2nd Floor
65 Park Avenue
PO Box 756
Flemington, NJ 08822-0756

Telephone 908-788-1129
Fax 908-806-4618

www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/prosecutor/

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 3, 2023

FLEMINGTON MAN ARRESTED FOR SELLING COCAINE, METHAMPHETAMINE

Hunterdon County Prosecutor Renée M. Robeson announced today that a joint investigation by the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office's Narcotics Task Force and the Flemington Borough Police Department led to the arrest of an elected member of the Flemington Borough Town Council on charges of distributing and possessing with intent to distribute controlled dangerous substances.

Malik D. Johnston, a/k/a Pippin J. Folk, 46, of Flemington, was charged with second-degree distribution of cocaine, second-degree distribution of methamphetamine, second-degree possession of cocaine with intent to distribute, and second-degree possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute. On various occasions between December 2022 and February 2023 in Raritan Township, Mr. Johnston sold quantities of cocaine and methamphetamine to an undercover police officer. Further investigation revealed Mr. Johnston to be in possession of additional quantities of cocaine and methamphetamine with intent to distribute while in the Borough of Flemington.

Prosecutor Robeson credited the Flemington Borough Police Department and the Narcotics Task Force — which includes members of the New Jersey State Police Kingwood Station — for conducting a model investigation that led to the subject charges. "The joint investigation demonstrates the expertise and professionalism of Hunterdon County's law enforcement community. Illegal drug manufacture and distribution continue to pose a significant threat to public health and safety, which will be detected and prosecuted according to law."

Second-degree charges may result in criminal penalties including, but not limited to, a term of imprisonment between five and ten years and a fine not to exceed \$150,000.00.

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Mr. Johnston is lodged at the Warren County Correctional Center awaiting his first appearance in court.

Despite having been charged, every defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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