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EVAUGHN-SHA WALTERS FOUND, ARRESTED ON 3RD DEGREE MURDER CHARGES IN RACING CRASH ON ROUTE 422



NORRISTOWN, Pa. (May 8, 2017) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and West Pottsgrove Police Chief Matthew Stofflet announce the arrest of Evaughn-Sha Walters, 21, of Washington, D.C., for the murders of Anthony Rodriguez, 23, Marissa Kelly, 20, and her unborn child, who died in the February racing crash on Route 422. Walters is charged with two counts of Third Degree Murder, one count of Third Degree Murder of an Unborn Child, two counts of Homicide by Vehicle, Recklessly Endangering Another Person, Unsworn Falsifications and related charges.

On Feb. 4, 2017, West Pottsgrove Township Police responded at 12:02 a.m. to a report of a one-vehicle crash on Route 422 in West Pottsgrove Township. Investigators found that a white BMW had crashed through the guard rail, left the roadway and launched down an embankment into a ravine. The BMW was found on its roof more than 200 feet away from where the car left the roadway. The driver, Shone Santiago, and two passengers were trapped inside the car. Santiago was extracted from the car by the fire department and flown by helicopter to Reading Hospital.

Passengers Rodriguez and Kelly were both declared dead at the scene. Kelly was pregnant at the time of the crash, and her unborn child also died.

West Pottsgrove Township Police and the Montgomery County Detective Bureau began a joint investigation. Investigators learned that a second car, a Toyota Camry driven by Walters, was racing the BMW driven by Santiago at the time of the crash. Investigators determined that Santiago and Walters were racing eastbound on Route 422 when Santiago lost control of his car, crashed through the right guard rail, became airborne. The car traveled approximately 200 feet from the roadway, struck trees and came to rest on its roof. Investigators determined that Santiago was driving at a minimum speed of 121 mph just before the crash. This area of Route 422 is a work zone, and the posted speed limit is 40 mph.

The investigation also determined that Santiago and Walters were engaged in a previous race that took place on Route 100 approximately one hour before the fatal crash on Route 422. Investigators downloaded a video of the earlier race from Walters' cell phone. The video was taken by Walters as he was racing Santiago. During the video, the speedometer in Walters' Toyota is visible and, at one point, indicated a speed of 140 mph.

Walters was arraigned on Sunday, May 7, 2017 before Magisterial District Judge Robert M. Sobeck, who denied bail, and the defendant was remanded to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility. A preliminary hearing was scheduled for 11 a.m., May 17, 2017 before Magisterial District Judge Scott T. Palladino.

The case will be prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Thomas W. McGoldrick, Chief of the Trials Division.

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**