Brian E. Frosh Attorney General



MEDIA CONTACTS: <u>Press@oag.state.md.us</u> 410-576-7009

PRESS RELEASE

Attorney General Frosh Announces Indictments of 13 Defendants for Participating in a Criminal Gang and the Murder of Sebastian Dvorak

BALTIMORE, MD (August 27, 2018) – Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh, joined by Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent in Charge of the Baltimore Field Office Gordon Johnson, Baltimore City Interim Police Commissioner Gary Tuggle and Baltimore City State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby, today announced the indictments of 13 defendants: Clinton Davis, 36; Joseph Flowers, 38; Duwarn Holt, 29; Markeece Jordan, 25; Robert Lewis, 38; Malik Mungo, 18; Vernon Miller, 29; Dante Neal, 21; Gregory Randle, 34; Harvey Turner, 28; Keith Worthington, 33; Lienell Young, 33; and Timothy Zeller, 36. All defendants reside in Baltimore County, Baltimore City, or Harford County. Charges in the indictments include counts for participating in a criminal gang, the distribution of narcotics, acts of violence including murder and witness intimidation, as well as firearms trafficking. The investigation was led by the Attorney General's Organized Crime Unit, the Baltimore City Police Department's undercover and homicide squads, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Safe Streets Task Force.

Over the course of a year-long investigation, law enforcement built a case on a criminal enterprise known as the "500" or "500 L," that operated throughout Maryland, including the 500 block of North Rose Street in Baltimore City. The organization is a subset of the Bloods gang, but also features associate members who are not sworn members of the Bloods. The organization facilitated the sale of various narcotics to undercover officers, including, but not limited to, heroin, fentanyl, cocaine, oxycodone, marijuana, and a dangerous synthetic compound, N-ethylpentylone hydrochloride, which the gang represented to be MDMA, more commonly known as ecstasy.

The 500 L organization is responsible for acts of violence, including the murder of Sebastian Dvorak. In early June 2017, shortly before the murder, one of the high-ranking members of the organization, Robert Lewis, provided a handgun to Malik Mungo. On June 13, 2017, in the Canton neighborhood of Baltimore City, Sebastian Dvorak was walking home after celebrating his 27th birthday when Malik Mungo and another individual robbed Mr. Dvorak, shot him in the chest, and then fled. After surveillance footage was circulated by the police and on the news and social media, other members of the organization worked to hide the evidence of the crime, including disposing of the handgun Mungo used in the shooting.

Additionally, in September 2016, an associate of the organization stabbed to death Gerrod Greenwood in Baltimore County. In September 2017, while that associate was pending trial for

the murder, members of 500 L obtained the personal identifying information of one of the State's witnesses. A member of the gang publicly posted the witness's information on social media accounts, tagged additional members of the organization and labeled the witness as a "rat."

The defendants also exerted control over their territory through possession and trafficking of firearms. While monitoring electronic communications, investigators intercepted members discussing the sale of handguns. Members would also "swap" weapons after they were used in crimes. On one occasion, a member of the organization sold a sawed off shotgun to an undercover detective.

"This gang ran a sophisticated operation, engaging in drug and gun trafficking, robbery, and murder," said Attorney General Frosh. "After countless hours of hard work, we are able to bring a small amount of justice to Sebastian Dvorak's loved ones and hold these defendants accountable for their actions."

"The FBI works closely with our law enforcement partners to make sure those bringing violence to our streets are held accountable," said FBI Baltimore Special Agent in Charge Gordon B. Johnson. "Collectively, we will pursue and arrest violent offenders who seek to inflict violence and fear in our communities."

"Today's indictment is an example of the benefits of multi-agency collaboration and a blow to this alleged criminal enterprise that is accused of wreaking havoc on our communities by distributing guns and drugs, including fentanyl; as well as intimidating witnesses through violence," said State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby. "My prayers are with the family of Sebastian Dvorak as we begin the process toward justice."

"Hopefully this joint investigation to disrupt and dismantle a criminal enterprise brings about a small sense of closure for the family of Sebastian," said Baltimore Police Commissioner Gary Tuggle. "We will continue with a collective law enforcement and prosecutorial approach to go after those who choose to continue in violent activity."

In making today's announcement, Attorney General Frosh thanked Organized Crime Chief Katie Dorian, and Assistant Attorneys General Zachary Norfolk and Erin Wrenn. The Attorney General also thanked Commissioner Tuggle and SAC Johnson for their partnership in this investigation. Attorney General Frosh also thanked DEA Assistant Special Agent in Charge for the Baltimore District Office Don Hibbert, State's Attorney for Baltimore City Marilyn Mosby, State's Attorney for Baltimore County Scott Shellenberger, U.S. Attorney for the District of Maryland Robert Hur, and Baltimore County Police Chief Terrence Sheridan.

A criminal indictment is merely an accusation of wrongdoing, and a defendant is presumed innocent until the State proves the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.