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Chief of Detectives

County of Warren

PRESS RELEASE

ARRESTED: Mark Thompson
252 East Washington Ave
Washington, NJ 07882
DOB: June 15, 1986

Karen Akers
252 East Washington Ave
Washington, NJ 07882
DOB: June 23, 1970

Bradley Ross
23 McCullough Rd
Washington, NJ 07882
DOB: November 29, 1989

Doreen Ross
23 McCullough Rd
Washington, NJ 07882
DOB: April 11, 1965

George Banghart, Jr.
50 Good Springs Rd
Asbury, NJ 08802
DOB: June 6, 1988

On February 17, 2010, the above listed individuals were arrested following a six month investigation into drug distribution in the Borough of Washington and Washington Township. The investigation was conducted by the Washington Township Police Department's Special Enforcement Team with the assistance of the Warren County Prosecutor's Office Narcotics Task Force, the Phillipsburg Police Department Special Operations Division, Pohatcong Police Department, Independence Twp Police Department, The Warren County Tactical Response Team and the New Jersey State Police.

Thompson was charged with four (4) counts of unlawful possession of a controlled dangerous substance, specifically cocaine, a third degree offense in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-10a (1), three (3) counts of distribution of cocaine, a third degree offense in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-5B (3) and four (4)

counts of possession with intent to distribute cocaine, a third degree offense in violation of N.J.S.A 2C:35-5B (3).

Bradley Ross was charged with two (2) counts of possession with intent to distribute marijuana, a fourth degree offense in violation of N.J.S.A 2C:35-5B (12), two (2) counts of distribution of controlled dangerous substance, specifically marijuana, a fourth degree offense in violation of N.J.S.A 2C:35-5B (12), one (1) count of possession of a prohibited weapon, specifically a stun gun, a fourth degree offense in violation of N.J.S.A 2C:39-3H, one (1) count of possession of marijuana under 50 grams, a disorderly persons offense in violation of N.J.S.A 2C:35-10A(4) and one (1) count of possession of drug paraphernalia a disorderly persons offense in violation of N.J.S.A 2C:36-2.

Doreen Ross was charged with one (1) count of possession of drug paraphernalia, a disorderly persons offense in violation of N.J.S.A 2C:36-2.

Banghart was charged with one (1) count of possession of marijuana under 50 grams, a disorderly persons offense in violation of N.J.S.A 2C:35-10A(4) and one (1) count of possession of drug paraphernalia, a disorderly persons offense in violation of N.J.S.A 2C:36-2.

Akers was charged with one (1) count of obstruction, a fourth degree offense in violation of N.J.S.A 2C:29-1A, one (1) count of possession of marijuana under 50 grams, a disorderly persons offense in violation of N.J.S.A 2C:35-10a(4) and one (1) count of disorderly conduct, a disorderly persons offense in violation of N.J.S.A 2C:33-2a.

Thompson was lodged in the Warren County Correctional Center in default of \$25,000 bail without a 10% option set by Honorable John J. Coyle, J.S.C.

Bradley Ross was released after posting bail. Doreen Ross, George Banghart and Karen Akers were all issued summons for the aforementioned offenses and released pending Court appearances.

Please be advised that all defendants are presumed innocent of all charges unless and until proven guilty.



THOMAS S. FERGUSON
PROSECUTOR

Dated: February 18, 2010