

# ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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**Theodore F. L. Housel**

**Prosecutor**

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## NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release  
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**MAYS LANDING** – An Atlantic County Grand Jury indicted four northern New Jersey men today on human trafficking charges for allegedly transporting a 16-year-old and a 22-year-old girl to Atlantic City to force them to engage in prostitution, Atlantic County Prosecutor Ted Housel announced.

In addition to the human trafficking charge, Malik Canty, 30, of Union County; Felix Nunez, 32, of Union County, Cedric Crews, 35, of Essex County and Daryl Baskerville, 29, of Newark, were indicted on charges of possession of a firearm and promoting prostitution, according to First Assistant Prosecutor Murray Talasnik, who presented the case to the Grand Jury.

It is alleged that the men transported the victims from Elizabeth in Union County to Atlantic City on or about July 21, 2009, to force them to engage in prostitution by threats of serious bodily harm and physical restraint. The following day Atlantic City police arrested the men at the Martinique Motel located on Pacific Avenue, after an investigation into alleged prostitution. The men were initially charged with firearm possession offenses and promoting prostitution. Additional charges of first-degree human trafficking were signed by the Prosecutor's Office on Aug. 6. The threat of force differentiates the prostitution and human trafficking charge.

The defendants remain in the Atlantic County Justice Facility each in lieu of bail. In addition, a condition of the bail is that the defendants must not have contact with the victims.

If indicted and convicted, Canty, Nunez, Crews and Baskerville could each face 20 years to life in prison.

**\*\*\*The indictment is merely an accusation. The defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.**

Anyone with information involving serious crimes is asked to call the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office at 609-909-7800 or go to the Prosecutor's Office Web site at <http://www.acpo.org/tips.html> and provide information by filling out the

form anonymously on the Submit a Tip page. People can also call Crime Stoppers at 609-652-1234 or 1-800-658-8477 (TIPS) or visit the Crime Stoppers Website at <http://www.crimestoppersatlantic.com/>. Crime Stoppers offers cash rewards for information leading to the arrest and indictment of those who commit crimes in Atlantic County.