

ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

4997 Unami Boulevard, Mays Landing, NJ 08330

Theodore F. L. Housel

Prosecutor

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
July 20, 2010
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For further information contact:
Madelaine Vitale 609-909-7855
609-457-7359

MAYS LANDING— An Atlantic County Grand Jury indicted a veteran employee of Atlantic City today on numerous charges including official misconduct, distribution of heroin, distribution within 500 feet of a public zone and distribution within 1000 feet of a school zone, Atlantic County Prosecutor Ted Housel stated.

It is alleged in the 30-count indictment that Akbar Malik Salaam, 58, the building manager for All Wars Memorial Building located on Adriatic Avenue in Atlantic City, sold in excess of 800 bags of heroin with a street value of thousands of dollars to an undercover operative on five occasions during work hours at the Memorial Building. It is further alleged that Salaam utilized his official city vehicle to sell heroin to the operative. The sales occurred over a several-month period, according to Chief Assistant Prosecutor Cary Shill who presented the case to the Grand Jury.

Atlantic City Detective Daryl Dabney and Atlantic City Detective Kevin Fair, along with the Prosecutor's Office Gangs, Guns and Narcotics Unit and the FBI conducted the investigation, which led to Salaam's Feb. 3 arrest at the defendant's Egg Harbor Township home, Shill said.

Distribution of heroin within a public zone is a crime of the second-degree and carries a maximum prison sentence of 10 years. Official misconduct as charged, is a crime of the second-degree and carries a mandatory five-year period of parole ineligibility. The remaining counts in the indictment are crimes of the third-degree and each carry a maximum prison sentence of five years. Distribution within 1000 feet of a school zone carries a mandatory three-year period of parole ineligibility, Shill said.

*****The indictment is merely an accusation. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and 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.