

ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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Theodore F. L. Housel

Prosecutor

NEWS RELEASE

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MAYS LANDING— A Galloway Township married couple each entered into plea agreements today for three separate second-degree robberies of local pharmacies in which the couple would go into local pharmacies, demand and receive hundreds of Oxycodone pills in 2009 and 2010, Atlantic County Prosecutor Ted Housel stated.

Over the course of six months Russell DeMark, 32, and his wife Nicole DeMark, 30, of the 600 block of East Lakefront Circle, entered CVS drug stores including one in Egg Harbor Township, the same CVS in Galloway Township twice and the same CVS in Absecon twice, and a Rite Aid in Absecon, between the dates of Oct. 27, 2009 and April 10, 2010. Russell DeMark would go up to the counter and threaten violence if his demands were not met. Nicole DeMark would hand the pharmacist a note threatening violence if the pharmacist did not give her the Oxycodone pills. The couple was arrested after the final robbery during which Russell DeMark entered a CVS in the Smithville section of Galloway Township and demanded the drugs, and a Good Samaritan followed him out of the store, watched him enter a vehicle driven by his wife, followed the couple out to their residence and called police. The DeMarks were arrested at their home on April 10, 2010, and indicted for their crimes on Aug. 17, 2010, according to Assistant Prosecutor Erik Bergman.

In accordance with the plea agreement, the recommended sentence will be eight years in prison of which each of the defendants, who have no prior criminal history, must serve 85 percent of the prison term before being eligible for parole, or six years, nine months and 24 days, Assistant Prosecutor Bergman said.

Superior Court Judge Michael A. Donio presided over the plea agreements. The defendants will be sentenced on Feb. 4, 2011.

*****These charges are merely an accusation and not proof of guilt. In all criminal cases, a charged defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.**

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.