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for the City of New York**

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Ten Drug Traffickers Arrested at Brooklyn's Lafayette Gardens

BRIDGET G. BRENNAN, New York City's Special Narcotics Prosecutor, and New York City Police Commissioner RAYMOND W. KELLY announced today the indictment and arrest of 10 drug traffickers who peddled crack cocaine, heroin and marijuana in the Lafayette Gardens in Clinton Hill, Brooklyn.

The NYPD arrested the drug dealers early this morning, following a five-month investigation in which undercover detectives with the Narcotics Bureau Brooklyn North purchased narcotics and marijuana on nearly 20 occasions. Charges stemming from these sales are contained in two separate indictments.

Six of the drug traffickers arrested today operated as a tight-knit crew that specialized in selling crack and marijuana. Ranging in age from their early 20s to early 30s, members of this drug ring coordinated drug sales and referred customers to one another. They are charged together in one indictment (PEOPLE VS. CURTIS CARTER, et. al.). Drug sales took place in public hallways, lobbies and stairwells of residential buildings within Lafayette Gardens, a New York City Housing Authority Complex. Additional sales occurred in front of the buildings and in outdoor courtyards.

In launching the investigation, dubbed "Operation Cash Gardens," police responded to community complaints about drug traffickers intimidating residents, and the presence of narcotics and weapons inside the buildings. Residents of the complex suffered multiple shootings in recent months, including one last week. The community has also been plagued with a rash of burglaries and robberies.

A second indictment (PEOPLE VS. RAYMOND GRESSMAN, et. al.) charges a group of four older defendants, who sold crack cocaine and heroin in the vicinity of the housing complex.

Lafayette Gardens is comprised of seven residential buildings and is home to approximately 2,680 residents. Drug sales in the case took place inside the housing complex at 456 DeKalb Ave., 470 DeKalb Ave., 345 Classon Ave., 411 Lafayette Ave. and 433 Lafayette Ave., as well as outside the complex at 370 Lafayette Ave.

INDICTED DEFENDANTS**CHARGES**

People vs. Curtis Carter, et. al.

Curtis Carter 415 Lafayette Avenue, Apt. 12G 12/19/1989	CSCS 2 nd – 1 ct CSCS 3 rd – 4 cts Grand Larceny 4 th – 1 ct Criminal Sale of Marijuana 4 th – 2 cts Criminal Sale of Marijuana 5 th – 1 ct
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Noah Nelson 330 New Lots Ave., Apt. 1 11/7/1983	CSCS 3 rd – 2 cts
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Antoine Pemberton 345 Classon Avenue 5/5/1985	CSCS 3 rd – 1 ct
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Quandell Hendricks 345 Classon Avenue, Apt. 7G 11/24/1989	CSCS 3 rd – 1 ct
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Stanley Williams 1650 Pacific Street, Apt. 1A 7/17/1991	CSCS 3 rd – 1 ct
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Lenny Bovian 433 Lafayette Avenue, Apt. 4F 6/17/1990	Grand Larceny 4 th – 1 ct
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People vs. Raymond Gressman, et. al.

Raymond Gressman 456 DeKalb Avenue, Apt. 18C 10/24/1961	CSCS 3 rd – 6 cts
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Brian Rawlings 345 Classon Avenue, Apt. 13D 3/21/1973	CSCS 3 rd – 3 cts
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Julien Hardy 418 Lafayette, Apt. 2 1/1/1968	CSCS 3 rd – 1 ct
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Theodore Smith 1030 Bedford Avenue, Apt. 1A 5/7/1954	CSCS 3 rd – 1 ct
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The charges and allegations are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.