PRESS RELEASE

ARREST IN FIRST DEGREE STRICT LIABILITY INDUCED HOMICIDE
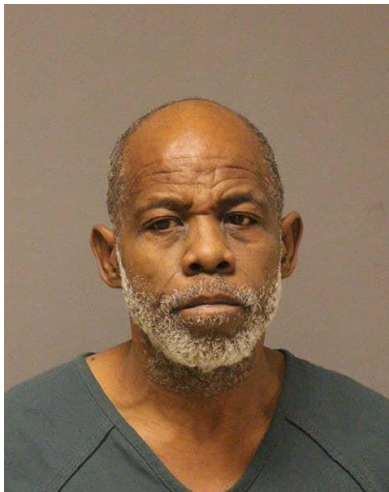
Ocean County Prosecutor Bradley D. Billhimer announced today that on February 1, 2019, detectives from the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office, the Ship Bottom Police Department, and the Pleasantville Police Department arrested Ronald Parrish, 62, of Pleasantville, New Jersey, in connection with the overdose death of Michael Tramel, 40, on April 15, 2018.

Parrish was charged with Strict Liability Drug Induced Death in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-9a, Possession with the Intent to Distribute Heroin in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-5b (1), and Possession of Less Than a Half Ounce of Heroin in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-10a (1).

On April 15, 2018, the Ship Bottom Police Department responded to 107 West 18th Street in Ship Bottom, New Jersey to investigate a report for an unresponsive male. Mr. Tramel, of Ship Bottom, was found to be deceased.

Parrish is the second individual charged in the death of Mr. Tramel. Levi Brown, 32, of Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, was previously charged with the Strict Liability Induced Death of Mr. Tramel, as well as Possession of Heroin and Possession with Intent to Distribute same, and arrested on a warrant on October 9, 2018. Brown is currently lodged in the Ocean County Jail.

Parrish is being held in the Ocean County Jail pending a detention hearing.

The public is and media are reminded that individuals are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.