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PRESS RELEASE

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D.A. McMahon and NYPD announce takedown of six drug dealers on felony charges

****Targets sold heroin in and around South Beach ****

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. — Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon and NYPD Commissioner William J. Bratton today announced the takedown of six individuals who sold heroin in and around South Beach, as well as in other nearby neighborhoods. Search warrant executions also yielded quantities of narcotics and related paraphernalia.

“Stemming the flow of dangerous narcotics in our communities is the only way we will ever rid Staten Island of this drug scourge,” said District Attorney Michael E. McMahon. “My office will continue working with our partners in the NYPD to ensure that those responsible for flooding our streets with deadly heroin are held accountable for their actions.”

“These arrests are another example of a coordinated effort to end heroin trafficking in Staten Island and save lives,” said Police Commissioner William J. Bratton. “I commend the efforts of the investigators and prosecutors involved in this investigation whose hard work resulted in these arrests and who continue to work to stop the flow of heroin into our communities.”

The five-month investigation began in April 2016 and was dubbed Operation “Beach Boys” in reference to the area in and around South Beach where the defendants sold heroin. Other communities where the defendants dealt include Arrochar, Dongan Hills, Grasmere and Stapleton.

The defendants are: **KAISER RAFIQ, KELLY JACKSON, JASON SCHULZ, KATHERINE ROSHETAR, LOUIS MACHUCA and SHANNA GINA.**

All defendants were arraigned Saturday in Criminal Court, St. George and ordered held on bail.

The charges contained in the criminal complaints are merely allegations and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Sun Moo Heo under the supervision of Assistant District Attorney Karen Varriale, Chief of the Narcotics Bureau.

The lead NYPD investigators on the case are Det. Michael Fahmy of Narcotics Borough Staten Island, acting under the supervision of Sgt. Paul Farella and Deputy Inspector Dominick D'Orazio.

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