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PRESS RELEASE

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D.A. McMahon and NYPD Commissioner James P. O'Neill: Employee Indicted for Selling Pills Out of Top Tomato Store

Employee sold pills out of a Top Tomato store, while a former worker and associate sold heroin and pills at separate locations

Staten Island, N.Y. – Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon and NYPD Commissioner James P. O'Neill today announced the arrest and indictment of JOSEPH MILLAZO for selling pills out of a Top Tomato store on Staten Island where he worked. Two additional defendants, DANIEL CRISALLI, a former employee of the store, and an associate, SAM LANGONE, were also indicted for drug sales at separate locations. A search warrant execution also yielded quantities of heroin.

“These defendants sold drugs in the open as Staten Islanders went about buying groceries and running errands. Their alleged actions are unacceptable, especially at a time when the people of this borough are still reeling from the drug epidemic,” said **District Attorney Michael E. McMahon**. “My thanks to NYPD Narcotics Borough Staten Island for bringing this investigation and for all of the hard work they do every day protecting Staten Islanders. Together with the prosecutors in my office’s Narcotics-Investigations Bureau, we will continue to hold drug dealers accountable for the lives that they destroy.”

NYPD Commissioner James P. O'Neill said, “The defendants in this case allegedly sold heroin and pills in a supermarket on Staten Island—like they were household staples. Only their products were deadly and addictive, as Staten Island battles an epidemic. I want to thank the investigators and the Staten Island D.A.’s office for their work to bring these indictments.”

The seven-month investigation, dubbed Operation “Rotten Tomato”, began in June 2017 and focused on an employee, JOSEPH MILLAZO, who was selling pills out of the Top Tomato store located at 3579 Victory Blvd. As the investigation moved forward, it was discovered that a former employee, DANIEL CRISALLI and an associate, SAM LANGONE, were also involved in the scheme. Defendant MILLAZO made multiple sales of pills out of the store to undercover officers. Defendant CRISALLI made multiple sales of heroin and pills to undercover officers at a separate location unrelated to the store, and defendant LANGONE made multiple sales of pills and methadone to undercover officers at a separate location unrelated to the store.

Search warrants executed Thursday at CRISALLI's home at 92 Comstock Avenue yielded approximately 100 glassines of heroin.

The defendants were arraigned Thursday in Staten Island state Supreme Court, St. George. Bail was set at \$50,000 for defendants CRISALLI and LONGONE and \$25,000 for MILAZZO.

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

The prosecution of the case is being handled by Assistant District Attorney Jane Grinberg under the supervision of ADAs Michele Molfetta and Kelly Carroll, Deputy Chiefs of the Narcotics-Investigations Bureau.

The lead NYPD investigator on the case is Det. Raymond Wittick, working with Det. Brendan O'Brien under the supervision of Sgt. Kenneth Tysdal and Captain Theodore Lauterborn, Commanding Officer of Narcotics Borough Staten Island.

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Defendant Information:

Daniel Crisalli
D.O.B. 4/26/85
SI,NY

Sam Langone
D.O.B. 7/14/56
SI,NY

Joseph Millazo
D.O.B. 5/9/84
SI,NY

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