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MEDIA RELEASE – JULY 28, 2018

MOUNTAINSIDE MAN INDICTED ON TWO COUNTS OF ATTEMPTED MURDER

Hunterdon County Prosecutor Anthony P. Kearns, III, announced the indictment of Rafael Garica, age 74, of Mountainside, NJ. On July 27, 2017, Mr. Garcia was indicted by a Hunterdon County Grand Jury for two counts of 1st degree Attempted Murder.

On September 27, 2016, Two Readington Township police officers observed a vehicle parked on the eastbound shoulder of Route 22 in Whitehouse Station. While investigating the abandoned vehicle the officers observed a man, later identified as Rafael Garcia, in a nearby field. Mr. Garcia was instructed to come out of the field at which time he fired multiple shots at the officers. Officers at the scene were able to successfully place Garcia in custody without returning fire. The officers were uninjured during the encounter with Mr. Garcia.

The filing of a criminal complaint is merely a step in the criminal justice process. The defendant is presumed innocent until the matter is resolved in a court of law.

Anonymous tips can be submitted by calling Crime Stoppers at 1-800-321-0010 or by going to www.crimestoppershunterdon.com, or text messaging "HCTIPS" plus your tip message to 274637 (CRIMES). Tipsters can also download the free mobile app "Tipsubmit" and select Hunterdon County to submit anonymous tips via text messaging. All tips are anonymous and kept confidential.

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