

# Office of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor

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## **MEDIA RELEASE – MAY 23, 2019**

### **EASTON MAN SENTENCED TO SEVEN YEARS IN PRISON FOR HIS ROLE IN DRUG INDUCED DEATH**

Hunterdon County Acting Prosecutor Michael J. Williams announced that Richard J. Ricciardi, age 47, of Easton, PA, has been sentenced for first degree strict liability for a drug-induced death.

According to Acting Prosecutor Williams, “Mr. Ricciardi was charged on May 29, 2018, after a joint investigation by detectives from the Hunterdon County Prosecutor’s Office’s Narcotics Task Force and the Clinton Township Police Department. In court, Mr. Ricciardi admitted to selling a fatal dose of heroin and fentanyl causing the overdose death of an individual in Clinton Township on May 28, 2018. On June 28, 2018 a Hunterdon County Grand Jury indicted Mr. Ricciardi for first degree strict liability for a drug-induced death, and he pled guilty on March 26, 2019. On May 22, 2019, Mr. Ricciardi was sentenced by the Honorable Angela F. Borkowski, J.S.C., to seven years in state prison and five years parole upon his release. “

Acting Prosecutor Williams stated that “I would like to commend Detective Sergeant Larry Anthes, Clinton Township Police Department, and Hunterdon County Prosecutor’s Office Detective William Musacchio for their hard work and perseverance during this investigation. The Hunterdon County Prosecutor’s Office will continue to use all available resources to seek out and prosecute those who deal or distribute drugs in Hunterdon County. We have witnessed too many deaths and too much pain caused by the drug epidemic that has swept this country. Those responsible for dealing drugs that result in a fatal overdose will be prosecuted and brought to justice.”

Anonymous tips can be submitted by calling Crime Stoppers at 1-800-321-0010, going online at [www.CrimeStoppersHunterdon.com](http://www.CrimeStoppersHunterdon.com), or through the free “P3 Tips” smartphone app. All tips are anonymous and kept confidential. Crime Stoppers pays cash rewards for valid tips.

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