



## OFFICE OF THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR

**ANGELO J. ONOFRI**

*Prosecutor*

**TRACEY McKEOWN**

*Chief of County Detectives*

209 S. Broad Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 8068  
Trenton, New Jersey 08650-0068  
Phone: (609) 989-6350  
mercercountyprosecutor.com

**STEPHANIE A. KATZ**

*First Assistant Prosecutor*

**MICHAEL J. NOVEMBRE**

*Deputy Chief of County Detectives*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT:** Casey A. DeBlasio  
(609) 989-6379

### **Additional Charges Filed Against Suspect in Officer-Involved Shooting**

The suspect wounded during a September officer-involved shooting incident in Trenton has been charged with an earlier shooting, Mercer County Prosecutor Angelo J. Onofri reported.

Joseph Reeves, 37, of Trenton, was charged with first-degree unlawful possession of a weapon and second-degree certain persons not to possess a weapon in the officer-involved shooting incident that took place on September 29. He is currently being held in the Mercer County Correction Center pending a detention hearing.

On Friday afternoon, October 4, new complaints were filed against Reeves charging him with third-degree aggravated assault and second-degree possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose for an incident that occurred just prior to the police-involved shooting.

Just after 4 p.m. on Sunday, September 29, 2019, Trenton police responded to an officer-involved shooting in the area of 1901 Calhoun Street. Officers and emergency medical technicians arrived on scene and located an adult black male, later identified as Joseph Reeves, suffering from multiple gunshot wounds, including one to the head. He was transported to Capital Health Regional Medical Center, then transferred to Cooper University Hospital in Camden. He was released from the hospital sometime last week.

At the same time police located Reeves, they encountered an on-duty Trenton police officer. The circumstances that led up to the Trenton officer's encounter with Reeves are still under investigation.

Officers on scene observed a silver Kia Optima, which Reeves had been operating, with the engine running and the driver's side door open. The vehicle had heavy front end damage and appeared to have collided with a parked green Chevrolet Suburban LT. The Optima also had several bullet holes. A silver Ruger .357 Magnum revolver was located on the driver's side floor in plain view.

The owner of the Kia Optima was located and investigation by the Mercer County Homicide Task Force revealed that Reeves was operating the vehicle immediately prior to the encounter with the Trenton police officer. The driver of the silver Kia Optima is observed firing outside the driver's side window at approximately 3:55 p.m. at a vehicle that is traveling on Stockton Street toward Perry Street on surveillance videos obtained from the area of East Hanover and Stockton streets. Reeves is charged with firing a Ruger .357 Magnum revolver six times at the occupied motor vehicle.

The Mercer County Homicide Task Force continues to investigate the shooting. Anyone with information is asked to call (609) 989-6406. Information can also be emailed to [mchtftips@mercercounty.org](mailto:mchtftips@mercercounty.org).

Despite having been charged, every defendant is presumed innocent until found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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