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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Bridgeton Man Arrested and Charged with Fatal Stabbing in Trenton

Mercer County Prosecutor Angelo J. Onofri announced today that an investigation conducted by the Mercer County Homicide Task Force and the Trenton Police Department has resulted in the arrest of a Bridgeton Township man for the stabbing death of Corey Jones.

James B. Draper, 46, is charged with one count of first-degree murder and three weapons offenses, including certain persons not to possess a weapon. He was detained without incident in Bridgeton on Wednesday, October 25. The prosecutor's office will file a motion to detain Draper pending trial.

Just before 9 p.m. on October 19, 2023, Trenton police responded to the area of Cross Street and Kersey Alley in response to a call for an unresponsive male. Upon arrival, officers located a male victim on the ground in the sidewalk area suffering from numerous stab wounds. The victim, identified as Jones, 40, of Trenton, was transported to Capital Health Regional Medical Center where he was pronounced dead a short time later.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to contact MCHTF Detective Michael Cipriano at (609) 575-2235 or OIC William Jett Jr. at (609) 331-5010. Information can also be emailed to 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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**James Draper**