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Alleged Thanksgiving Murder Suspect Arraigned



ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares today announced that KAREEM BLACKNALL, 30, of Albany, was arraigned before the Honorable Judge Thomas A. Breslin in Albany County Supreme Court this morning for allegedly causing the death of another at a Central Avenue establishment in the early morning hours of November 24, 2016.

An indictment was previously unsealed accusing BLACKNALL of (1) Count of Murder in the Second Degree, a Class A-I Felony, (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a Class C Armed Violent Felony, (1) Count of Reckless Endangerment in the First

Degree, a Class D Felony, and (1) Count of Attempted Escape in the Third Degree, a Class B Misdemeanor.

The indictment alleges that on November 24, 2016, BLACKNALL allegedly possessed a loaded firearm and caused the death of another individual, identified as Wendell Hill, while inside an establishment located at 77 Central Avenue in the City of Albany. The indictment also alleges that BLACKNALL recklessly engaged in conduct which created a grave risk of death to another.

Additionally, the indictment alleges that BLACKNALL attempted to escape from police custody on December 2, 2016 while in the area of South Pearl and Herkimer Streets in the City of Albany.

BLACKNALL remains in custody at the Albany County Correctional Facility and no new court appearance dates have been scheduled at this time.

Assistant District Attorney Steven Sharp is handling the prosecution of this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh at (518) 275-4710 or cecilia.walsh@albanycountyny.gov

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***All charged individuals are presumed innocent
until proven guilty.***