



## Cape May County Prosecutor's Office

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# NEWS

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County Prosecutor

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### For Immediate Release – March 11, 2019

*Cape May Court House, New Jersey* - Cape May County Prosecutor Jeffrey H. Sutherland and Lower Township Police Chief William Mastriana announce the seizure of approximately one kilogram of suspected Cocaine and a loaded handgun.

On March 6, 2019, the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office, Gangs Guns and Narcotics Task Force along with the Lower Township Police Detective Division were in the Villas section of Lower Township conducting surveillance regarding to ongoing narcotics activity. On this date, a vehicle was identified leaving a known narcotics area. This vehicle was subsequently stopped by Lower Township Patrol Officers for a motor vehicle violation. During this stop a K9 sweep of the vehicle was requested. Officer Gomez of the Cape May County Sheriff's Office responded to the scene with K9 "Bama." During this sweep, K9 "Bama" indicated to the presence of narcotics in the vehicle. The vehicle was seized and the occupants were released at the scene pending further investigation.

On March 7, 2019, a Superior Court Search Warrant was authorized by Honorable Sarah B. Johnson, JSC for the vehicle. This warrant was then executed on this same day. The search of the vehicle resulted in finding cocaine in an amount of approximately one kilogram and a loaded 45 caliber handgun. This investigation is ongoing and charges are pending for the contraband that was seized.

Prosecutor Sutherland stated that his office will continue to work hand in hand with the local municipalities to target anyone selling illegal controlled dangerous substances. Prosecutor Sutherland continues to urge the citizens of Cape May County to report any information regarding illegal drug activity and or any criminal activity within the community and that this information can be reported anonymously through the Cape May County Sheriffs Tip Line at [cmcsheriff.net](http://cmcsheriff.net) and click on **anonymous tip**, or through the Cape May County Crime Stoppers at 609-465-2800, or the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office at 609-465-1135.

*\* Any charges are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent until and unless they are proven guilty.*