Pre-dawn Raid Nets Guns & Heroin

Newark – In a pre-dawn raid at two neighboring townhouses in the city’s west ward, Essex County sheriff’s detectives and officers from the sheriff’s Tactical Response Team arrested two suspects and charged them with multiple weapons and narcotics offenses.

Sheriff Armando Fontoura stated that officers from his department’s Bureau of Narcotics and the TRT team officers executed a search warrant early this morning for the apartments located at both 148 and 152 12th Avenue in Newark. The search warrant was issued following a two-week investigation into narcotics trafficking in the area.
At 148 12th Avenue, Elijah Jones, age 30, was taken into custody after the sheriff’s detectives discovered a loaded, .32 caliber, revolver and four decks of heroin in a dresser drawer in the suspect’s bedroom.

Duane Dansby, age 35, was arrested at 152 12th Avenue when the BON and TRT officers discovered a loaded, .380 caliber, Jennings Model 48 semi-automatic handgun and 15 decks of heroin in the suspect’s living room closet.

After questioning Jones at BON headquarters, the suspect asked to use the bathroom. Permission was granted and he was escorted by two sheriff’s detectives. Jones then punched the officers an attempted to escape. He was quickly subdued.

Jones and Dansby are both charged with the unlawful possession of a weapon, possession of a weapon while committing a CDS crime, possession of a controlled dangerous substance, possession of CDS with intent to distribute, possession of CDS with intent to distribute within 500 feet of a public housing complex (Georgia King Village) and possession of CDS with intent to distribute within 1000 feet of 13th Avenue School.

Jones was also charged with two counts of aggravated assault on a police officer and one county of attempted escape. Dansby was additionally charged with the unlawful possession of a weapon by a convicted felon.

Judge Roslyn Holmes Grant set speedy bails on Jones at $85,000 cash bond only and $100,000 cash bond only for Dansby.

Both suspects were lodged at the county jail where they await arraignment on today’s charges.