



# GUTTENBERG POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FRANK PELAEZ  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE  
CHIEF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

6808 PARK AVENUE  
GUTTENBERG, N.J. 07093  
TELEPHONE: (201)868-3300  
FAX: (201)868-0591

## PRESS RELEASE

**07/27/2023**

**File #:** I-2023-024615

**Call Type:** Fugitive from Justice/Narcotics Possession

**Date:** 07/26/2023

**Time:** 19:14hrs

On July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at approximately 7:14 PM, members of the Guttenberg Police Department's Patrol Division conducted a motor vehicle stop of a 2011 Toyota Scion for various traffic violations. During the motor vehicle stop, the vehicle's driver identified himself as an "Abimael Soto-Alicea", of Puerto Rico, according to his Puerto Rico driver's license. During the course of their on-scene investigation, officers discovered that the driver was in possession of a defaced prescription pill bottle, which contained various prescription pills, a clear baggie containing suspect cocaine, and that his Virginia temporary tag was fraudulent. At that time, Mr. Soto-Alicea was placed under arrest for the possession of five or more prescription legend drugs [2C:35-10.5E(2)] in a defaced prescription pill bottle, tampering with public records or information [2C:28-7A(2)], and possession of a controlled dangerous substance [2C:35-10A(1)].

During Mr. Soto-Alicea's arrest processing, officers uncovered that he had an active criminal warrant out of the State of New York. They were also able to find that Mr. Soto-Alicea had an associated alias of Elias Marte. With this information, officers found that the name "Abimael Soto-Alicea" was in fact fictitious and that the Puerto Rico identification provided was fraudulent. Having identified the male as Elias Marte, a subsequent warrant check found that Mr. Marte had two (2) additional active criminal warrants out of the States of Florida and South Dakota.

As the result of his arrest, in addition to the initial criminal charges, Mr. Marte was charged with exhibiting a false government document [2C:21-2.1C], possession of a false government document [2C:21-2.1D], hindering his own apprehension [2C:29-3B(1)], failure to make lawful disposition [2C:35-10C], and three (3) counts of being a fugitive from justice [2A:160-10]. Upon the completion of his arrest processing, Mr. Marte was issued his complaint warrants and subsequently lodged in the Hudson County Correctional Center.

The charges above are merely accusations. Every defendant is presumed innocent unless, and until, proven guilty in a court of law.

Deputy Chief Frank Pelaez #600  
Guttenberg Police Department  
Chief Law Enforcement Officer

Sergeant Aleksandar Ramadanovic #315  
Guttenberg Police Department  
Public Information Officer