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***Jersey City Police Seize Nearly 80 Pounds of Marijuana
Shipped to City Warehouse; Three Individuals Arrested
After Attempting to Claim Packages***

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Steven M. Fulop and Police Department announced today that police arrested three individuals Thursday and **seized nearly 80 pounds of marijuana** shipped from Phoenix to a local warehouse.

Arrested were Desmond A. Lewis, 48, and Benjamin Tyson Jr., 54, both of Philadelphia PA, and Tyshea Tyson, 32, of Upper Darby PA. The three were arrested about 10:30 a.m. outside the warehouse on County Road.

They were taken into custody by an undercover detail of the Jersey City Police Department's Special Investigations Unit in conjunction with the Citywide Narcotics Unit.

"I commend our Jersey City police officers for stopping a crime right in the act," said **Mayor Fulop**. "This was fast thinking and solid police work by patrol officers and detectives and a large amount of marijuana was taken off the streets. We will not tolerate our city being used as a destination for drugs."

The operation began about 10 a.m., Wednesday, June 18, when officers on routine patrol were dispatched to the warehouse after receiving a call about suspicious packages at the location. On arrival, officers discovered three boxes appearing to contain marijuana. Investigators estimate the three boxes contained approximately 78 pounds of marijuana.

Detectives waited at the location for the individual receiving the package and when nobody arrived, police extended the operation into the next day. When Benjamin Tyson arrived Thursday morning with a receipt for the boxes he was arrested along with Lewis and Tyshea Tyson who were with him in a van. Police seized the marijuana, including more in another small bag, along with the van and various other evidence.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary for Mayor Steven M. Fulop, at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.//////