

**COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**



**THOMAS J. SPOTA
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

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Drug defendant charged with attempted murder of undercover officer

Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota has announced that a 21 year old Farmingville man is charged with attempted murder of a police officer, criminal possession of a weapon and cocaine sale charges after firing his .38 caliber revolver at an undercover police officer last evening on the north service road of the Long Island Expressway in Holbrook.

Nicholas E. Hansen opened fire on a member of the Suffolk County District Attorney Heroin Task Force, after displaying approximately four ounces of cocaine to an undercover officer, as other officers moved in to arrest him.

Hansen emptied his handgun during the brief exchange of gun fire. His target, a New York State Police Investigator and 15 year police veteran, crouched near his vehicle less than ten feet away, and was not hit. Hansen was struck four times by the officer's return fire and is in stable condition at Stony Brook University Medical Center.

"This incident underscores the extraordinary risks police officers take and I am grateful they weren't harmed during last night's violence," District Attorney Thomas Spota said.

The defendant will be charged with two A-1 felonies; attempted murder in the first degree and criminal sale of a controlled substance in the first degree, criminal possession of a weapon in the second degree, a class C felony, two counts of criminal sale of a controlled substance second degree and one count of criminal sale of a controlled substance in the third degree. The top charge of attempted murder of a police officer in the first degree is punishable by a maximum imprisonment of 40 years to life.

The Suffolk County District Attorney's Heroin Task Force is a multijurisdictional drug enforcement unit comprised of detectives, investigators and other law enforcement personnel from the district attorney's office, DEA, New York State Police, Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, New York State Division of Parole and the Suffolk County Department of Probation. Since its creation in March of 2009, the task force has disrupted the operations of heroin distribution networks in the metropolitan area resulting in the seizure of millions of dollars' worth of illegal narcotics and hundreds of illegal weapons.

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A criminal charge is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in a court of law.