



YORK COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

DAVID W. SUNDAY, JR.
District Attorney

TIM BARKER
First Assistant District Attorney

ART SMITH
Chief County Detective

KYLE G. KING
Chief Administrator

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CONTACT: Kyle G. King

717-476-6207

kgking@yorkcountypa.gov

Two Local Precious Metals Dealers Charged After Failing to Maintain Compliance

York, PA – On July 2, 2019, after months of investigation and compliance meetings, the Office of the District Attorney filed charges against James Zimmerman of Zimmerman Jewelers and Dennis Steinmetz of Steinmetz Coins and Currency. Pennsylvania statute 73 P.S. §1933 (c) mandates that "A copy of every record of transaction shall be delivered or mailed to the district attorney of the county in which a purchase of precious metals is made by the close of the next working day after the day on which the metal is purchased." Both owners were contacted on January 15 of this year advising them that they were to return to compliance, however, from February 1 to current, Zimmerman Jewelers had a 37% compliance rate, while Steinmetz Coins and Currency had a compliance rate of just 17%.

The York County District Attorney's Office has invested significant time and money in an effort to make submissions easier on precious metals dealers by creating a web-based reporting system. Over the past two years, the program has grown to include Lebanon County and is in the process of expanding to Cumberland County. There are currently over 50 precious metal dealers utilizing the website, who maintain an average 94% compliance rate.

District Attorney Dave Sunday said, "It is the legal obligation of every precious metal dealer in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to provide this information to their jurisdiction's District Attorney. Data from this website has proven to be an invaluable

tool, aiding municipal law enforcement officers in solving drug and property crimes, and helping to reunite stolen items with their rightful owners.”

Criminal charges, and any discussion thereof, are merely allegations and all defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.