



# PRESS RELEASE

**PETER J. LUCIDO**  
MACOMB COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Contact: Dawn Fraylick  
Office: +1 (586) 469-5737  
Email: [Dawn.Fraylick@macombgov.org](mailto:Dawn.Fraylick@macombgov.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 12, 2024

## Tampa Man Arraigned in Carjacking and Torture Case

Mount Clemens, MI - On Tuesday, January 9, 2024, Tampa, Florida resident Angel Pantoja was arraigned on 8 counts in connection with a carjacking outside of Lifetime Fitness in Shelby Twp.

It is alleged that on Monday, October 23, 2023, Angel Pantoja, age 22, and five other suspects carjacked the victim, restrained him in his own vehicle and drove away. The suspects allegedly tortured the victim, drove the victim to his house, and entered the residence. Sterling Heights Police Department arrived at the victim's residence and Pantoja fled.

Angel Pantoja is charged with:

- Carjacking (life felony)
- Conspiracy to Commit Carjacking (life felony)
- Armed Robbery (life felony)
- Conspiracy to Commit Armed Robbery (life felony)
- Torture (life felony)
- Unlawful Imprisonment (15 year felony)
- Conspiracy to Commit Unlawful Imprisonment (15 year felony)
- Conspiracy to Commit Home Invasion in the First Degree (20 year felony)

Pantoja was arraigned in 41A Shelby Township District Court by District Court Magistrate Jim VerPloeg where bond was set at \$3 Million cash. A Probable Cause Hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 9:00 am in front of Shelby Township District Court Judge Douglas Shepherd.

“We will tirelessly pursue justice to protect the rights and safety of our residents and we remain resolute in our commitment to make those responsible for violent crimes accountable,” said Macomb County Prosecutor Peter J. Lucido.

The Macomb County Prosecutor’s Office represents the people. We are committed to achieving justice and following the laws of the State of Michigan. All that are accused of a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

###