

ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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NEWS RELEASE

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1 Page(s)

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MAYS LANDING – A man who stabbed his girlfriend to death, set her Hamilton Township home ablaze then killed himself in the March 4 fire, has been identified as Mario Justo-Perez, Atlantic County Prosecutor Ted Housel announced Monday.

Authorities responded to 4992 Laydon Court in Oakcrest Estates at 2:16 p.m. last Wednesday for a report of a fire. Prosecutor's Office Major Crimes, Arson, Forensics Units and the Medical Examiner arrived minutes later. The bodies of Saily Abreu, a mother of five girls, ages 6 to 14 and Justo-Perez were recovered from the three-floor town house.

The identity of the male was not released pending notification of next of kin in Mexico, Prosecutor Housel stated Monday. Prosecutor Housel would not release speculate on a potential motive for the killing.

Authorities located Abreu's body in the master bedroom on the third floor. Justo-Perez' body was found on the second floor directly below the bedroom because the floor partially collapsed, Prosecutor Housel said.

Atlantic County Medical Examiner Dr. Hydow Park performed an autopsy on Abreu last Thursday and determined the 36-year-old woman died from multiple stab wounds. Dental records were used to positively identify Abreu. Justo-Perez, of the West Atlantic City section of Egg Harbor Township, died of thermal burns and smoke inhalation. Identification of the male was made by co-workers through a distinguishing tattoo.

Abreu's children are staying with family and friends.

Anyone with information involving serious crimes is asked to call the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office at 609-909-7800 or go to the Prosecutor's Office Web site at <http://www.acpo.org/tips.html> and provide information by filling out the form anonymously on the Submit a Tip page. People can also call Crime Stoppers at 609-652-1234 or 1-800-658-8477 (TIPS). Crime Stoppers offers cash rewards for information leading to the arrest and indictment of those who commit crimes in Atlantic County.