

ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

4997 Unami Boulevard, Mays Landing, NJ 08330

Theodore F. L. Housel
Prosecutor

NEWS RELEASE

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For further information contact:
Madelaine Vitale 609-909 -7855
or 609-457-7359

MAYS LANDING – An Atlantic County Grand Jury indicted a Newark man on multiple counts including murder and aggravated assault for killing one Irish Pub worker in March and seriously injuring another worker who were attempting to break up a fight, Atlantic County Prosecutor Ted Housel announced Wednesday.

Luis Martinez, 25, also was indicted on counts of hindering prosecution, tampering with physical evidence, possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose and unlawful possession of a weapon, First Assistant Prosecutor Murray Talasnik, who presented the case to the Grand Jury Wednesday afternoon, said.

It is alleged that on March 21 at 4:43 a.m. Richard Rivera, a 27-year-old bartender from Ventnor Avenue in Ventnor, died of a stab wound to the heart when he and Richard Kutch, a 27-year-old bouncer, of Atlantic City, attempted to break up a fight inside the bar. Kutch suffered a stab wound to the left side of his body. He was hospitalized and released two days after the attack.

Members of the Prosecutor's Office Major Crimes Unit were called to the pub located on St. James Place in Atlantic City at 5:10 a.m. for a report of a disturbance. Martinez was arrested at the scene and charged with the crimes.

Martinez remains in the Atlantic County Justice Facility pending further proceedings in lieu of \$750,000 full cash bail.

*****These charges are merely an accusation and not proof of guilt. In all criminal cases, a charged defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.**

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.