

ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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Prosecutor

NEWS RELEASE

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MAYS LANDING – A Northfield man admitted at a court hearing today that he killed the mother of his five children and faces 15 years in prison, Atlantic County Prosecutor Ted Housel announced.

Louis Ceresa, of 128 E. Revere Drive, pled guilty to an Accusation for the Jan. 11, 2009 killing of Amanda Carmen, instead of having the case presented to an Atlantic County Grand Jury. In accordance with the plea agreement, Ceresa must serve 85 percent of the prison term when he is sentenced before Superior Court Judge Bernard E. DeLury on Sept. 18. He also waived his right to appeal the sentence and upon release from prison, he is subject to parole supervision for five years, according to Assistant Prosecutor Diane Ruberton.

Ceresa, 32, told the court that he became enraged because Carmen, 34, of Ocean Heights Avenue in Egg Harbor Township, threatened to take their children away from him. The maternal grandmother has custody of the children.

“I exploded,” Ceresa told the court. “I put my hands around her neck.”

When Ceresa discovered Carmen was not moving he went inside his home and told an individual that he hurt the victim. “I wasn’t thinking. I loved her. I still love her. I didn’t want this at all,” he said.

Northfield Police received a 911 call from Ceresa’s 128 E. Revere Drive home at 5:22 p.m. the night of the crime. Police responded to the home where they discovered Carmen dead in her vehicle. The Prosecutor’s Office Major Crimes Unit arrived shortly thereafter as well as the Medical Examiner.

Atlantic County Medical Examiner Dr. Hydow Park performed Carmen’s autopsy and determined she died from manual strangulation. Ceresa was charged with the crime the next night.

Ceresa remains at the Atlantic County Justice Facility in lieu of \$1 million cash or bond bail pending sentencing.

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.