

ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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Theodore F. L. Housel

Prosecutor

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
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MAYS LANDING – An 88-year-old Linwood woman was stabbed to death Thursday afternoon, her daughter and a Good Samaritan were seriously injured and one person is in custody, Atlantic County Prosecutor Ted Housel stated.

Linwood Police received a 911 call at 11:18 a.m. this morning and responded to the Village at Linwood condominium complex located at 550 Central Avenue. When authorities arrived they discovered Catherine McGowan dead in front of her home at E10 Jefferson Court. Authorities believe that Eugene Pepper, 84, who resides at the complex, attempted to come to the aid of McGowan when he was stabbed by another neighbor. Diane Nehmad, 60, McGowan's daughter was also attacked, Prosecutor Housel stated.

Prosecutor's Office Major Crimes Unit members and Linwood police investigated the crime. Anthony Milano, 65, of E12 Jefferson Court, who resided above McGowan's residence, was arrested at the scene and police recovered a large folding-knife, Prosecutor Housel stated.

Milano was charged with murder, two counts of aggravated assault, possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose and unlawful possession of a dangerous weapon and is in custody, Prosecutor Housel stated.

An autopsy on McGowan is scheduled for Friday morning.

Pepper and Nehmad were transported to the AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center, City Campus in Atlantic City, where both victims were listed in fair condition as of 5 p.m. tonight.

Prosecutor Housel told the media while at the scene today that there was a history of neighborhood differences and that Milano was scheduled to appear in the Linwood Municipal Court tonight on harassment charges filed against him by McGowan.

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