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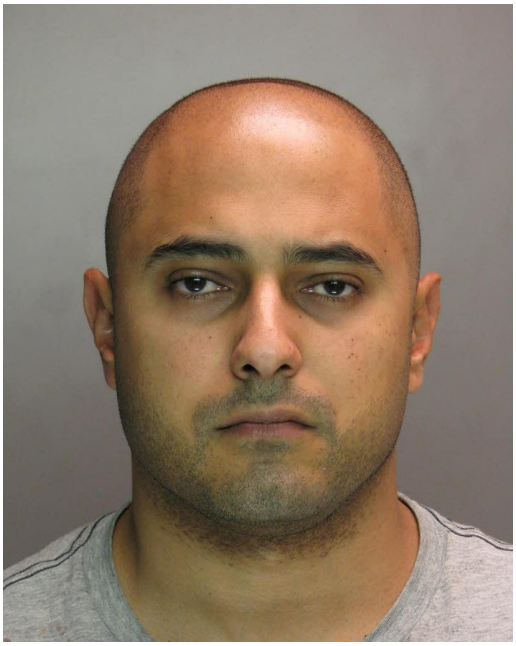
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 8, 2013

Arrest in Murder in Hatfield Township



Montgomery County District Attorney Risa Vetri Ferman and Hatfield Township Police Chief Mark Toomey announce the arrest of Walid Mitwalli for the murder of his wife Mona Mitwalli. The defendant is charged with First Degree Murder and related charges after stabbing his wife multiple times in the chest, back, head and throat with a 14-inch carving knife.

On June 7, 2013, shortly after 3 AM, the defendant called 911 and reported that his wife came at him with a knife, that he had grabbed the knife from her and stabbed her with it. He also told the 911 dispatcher that she was dead.

Hatfield Police went to the defendant's home at 2938 Denbeigh Drive and found Mona Mitwalli, with apparent stab wounds, laying in a pool of blood on the floor of the family room. The victim was deceased at the time police arrived at the scene. A joint investigation ensued by the Montgomery County Detective Bureau and the Hatfield Township Police Department.

The investigation revealed an escalating pattern of behavior by the defendant in his use of surveillance and Court processes. The Mitwallis appeared to be having marital difficulties and the defendant filed for a divorce from the victim on April 9, 2013. Then on April 11, 2013, the defendant used the Montgomery County Mental Health System to have the victim involuntarily committed; however, after Mona Mitwalli met with a doctor she was released following a finding that she was not in need of treatment and simply involved in a domestic dispute. Further, detectives found that on April 12, 2013, the defendant filed for a protection from abuse order in the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. After a temporary order was issued, a hearing was held on April 18, 2013, and the Presiding Judge denied the defendant's petition and dismissed the order.

The investigation is continuing and law enforcement authorities are searching for a DVR system, which appears to be missing from the home. Anyone with information regarding the system is asked to contact Montgomery County Detectives or Hatfield Township Police Detectives.

The defendant was arraigned before Magisterial District Judge Walter Gadzicki and was remanded to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility without bail. A preliminary hearing date of June 17, 2013 at 10 AM is scheduled before Magisterial District Judge Kenneth Deatelhauser at his Court in Souderton.

The case will be prosecuted by First Assistant District Attorney Kevin R. Steele, Assistant District Attorneys Jason Whalley and Brianna Ringwood.

Approved for Release:

Risa Vetri Ferman

CRIMINAL CHARGES, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF, ARE MERELY ALLEGATIONS AND ALL DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.