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RICHARD T. BURKE
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County of Warren

PRESS RELEASE

Arrested: Ralph A. Atkinson
LKA 13 Ramseyburg Road
Columbia, NJ 07832
DOB: 10/10/75

Deceased Victim: Margaret Graf-White

On Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at approximately 4:13 p.m., officers from the Washington Township Police Department responded to the report of a suspicious death at 20 West Stewart Street, Apartment D in the Borough of Washington. Upon arrival, officers discovered the deceased who appeared to be the victim of the assault. Preliminary investigation by the Office of the Morris County Medical Examiner revealed that the decedent had wounds which appeared to have been inflicted by an unidentified sharp instrument(s).

Further investigation revealed that during the early morning hours of May 14, 2014 the decedent was assaulted by Ralph Atkinson, with whom the decedent had a relationship.


As a result of the continuing investigation, Ralph Atkinson was charged with Murder, a first degree criminal offense and with various weapons offenses. Mr. Atkinson was lodged in the Warren County Correctional Center in lieu of bail of \$1,000,000.00 without 10% option.

The investigation was conducted by the Washington Township Police Department, the Warren County Prosecutor's Office, the Warren County Regional Crime Scene Team, the Phillipsburg Police Department, the Warren County Narcotics Task Force, New Jersey State Police Hope Station and the Morris County Medical Examiner's Office.

Murder is a crime of the first degree punishable by a maximum sentence of life imprisonment and which includes periods of mandatory parole ineligibility.

Please be advised that the charges are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent of all charges unless and until proven guilty.

Approved by:



RICHARD T. BURKE
Prosecutor

Dated: May 15, 2014