



OFFICE OF THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR

ANGELO J. ONOFRI
Acting Prosecutor

240 West State Street, 8th Floor
P.O. Box 8068
Trenton, New Jersey 08650-0068
Phone: (609) 989-6350
Fax: (609) 989-0161
mercercountyprosecutor.com

DORIS M. GALUCHIE
First Assistant Prosecutor

WILLIAM STRANIERO
Chief of County Detectives

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CONTACT: Casey A. DeBlasio
(609) 989-6379

Two Individuals Charged with the Murder of Michael DiMattia

Acting Mercer County Prosecutor Angelo J. Onofri and Hamilton Police Chief James W. Collins reported that two individuals have been charged in last week's murder of 53-year-old Michael DiMattia of Hamilton.

Marcus L. Muse (DOB 8.5.92), of Mayapple Lane, Willingboro, and **Tatiana S. Cole** (DOB 11.4.92), of Mary Street, Pemberton, were detained on Monday at a hotel in Mount Laurel by members of the Mercer County Homicide Task Force and the U.S. Marshals NY/NJ Regional Fugitive Task Force. Investigators executed a search warrant in the suspects' room and recovered a gun consistent with the weapon used in the murder.

Muse and Cole are each charged with murder, felony murder, robbery, possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose and unlawful possession of a weapon.

Hamilton police responded to an apartment on Estates Boulevard just after 7 a.m. on Thursday, March 17, 2016, after receiving a 911 call. Upon arrival, police found the resident of the apartment, identified as DiMattia, dead inside. An investigation by the homicide task force revealed that Muse and Cole were present at DiMattia's residence on that date, and participated in the planning of a robbery during which the victim was shot two times. The defendants are alleged to have stolen more than \$18,000 from DiMattia's residence.

The charges are a result of an investigation by homicide task force detectives, specifically lead investigator Adrian Markowski of the Robbinsville Township Police Department, with assistance from Hamilton Police Detectives Mark Watson and Frank Burger. Mercer County Superior Court Judge Peter E. Warshaw set bail for Muse at \$1 million and bail for Cole at \$500,000. The investigation is ongoing and there are no scheduled court appearances at this time.

Despite having been charged, every defendant is presumed innocent until found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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