



## OFFICE OF THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR

**ANGELO J. ONOFRI**

*Acting Prosecutor*

**VELDON HARRIS**

*Chief of County Detectives*

240 West State Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor

P.O. Box 8068

Trenton, New Jersey 08650-0068

Phone: (609) 989-6350

Fax: (609) 989-0161

[mercercountyprosecutor.com](http://mercercountyprosecutor.com)

**DORIS M. GALUCHIE**

*First Assistant Prosecutor*

**ROBERT DISPOTO**

*Deputy Chief of County Detectives*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 8, 2016

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

### **Newark Teen Arrested for the Murder of Carlos Leiva-Oviedo**

Acting Mercer County Prosecutor Angelo J. Onofri reported today that a 15-year-old from Newark, NJ has been arrested and charged with last month's murder of Carlos Leiva-Oviedo.

The 15-year-old male was taken into custody Thursday night at a relative's house in Newark by members of the Mercer County Homicide Task Force. He is charged with murder, felony murder, robbery, possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose and unlawful possession of a weapon. He is being held at the Middlesex County Youth Detention Center.

Onofri expressed his gratitude to the media for circulating the video and still image provided by the HTF last week as this led to assistance from the public in identifying the accused.

"This is a case that would not have been solved without all of the pieces: methodical, perseverant police work, help from the media, and the public doing their part by contacting the authorities with information," Onofri said. "When we work together, justice is served."

At approximately 3 a.m. on June 14, Trenton police responded to the intersection of Hudson and Genesee streets on a report of a male bleeding. They located the victim, later identified as 27-year-old Leiva-Oviedo, collapsed near his car on Hudson Street suffering from multiple stab wounds. Leiva-Oviedo was transported to Capital Health Regional Medical Center where he succumbed to his injuries.

The charges are a result of an investigation by Detective Roberto Reyes and the Mercer County Homicide Task Force. Onofri also thanked the Mercer County Narcotics Task Force, the Newark Police Department and the Essex County Homicide Task Force for their assistance with the arrest.

Under state law, the identities of juvenile defendants are protected. Despite having been charged, every defendant is presumed innocent until found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

**# # #**