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RICHMOND HILL MAN INDICTED FOR MURDER OF ESTRANGED WIFE

Defendant Allegedly Stabbed Tania Morales Garcia to Death; Faces up to 25 Years to Life, if Convicted

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz announced that Angel Apodaca was indicted on charges of murder, weapon possession and endangering the welfare of a child for the stabbing death of his 24-year-old estranged wife, Tania Morales Garcia. Apodaca allegedly stabbed Morales Garcia approximately 40 times in her Kew Garden Hills apartment where she lived with the couple's 2-year-old son. The defendant was arrested at the scene.

District Attorney Katz said: "This defendant is accused of repeatedly stabbing and killing his estranged wife while the couple's 2-year-old son was mere feet away. The untimely death of Tania Morales Garcia will reverberate for decades to come as her family grieves her loss. Domestic violence has no place in a civilized society, and we will do everything in our power to ensure accountability and justice for those who have experienced intimate partner violence."

Apodaca, 22, of Richmond Hill, was arraigned today on a grand jury indictment charging him with murder in the second degree, criminal possession of a weapon in the fourth degree, and endangering the welfare of a child. Queens Supreme Court Justice Gia Morris remanded the defendant and ordered him to return to court on January 8, 2027. He faces up to 25 years to life in prison, if convicted.

DA Katz said that, according to the charges and indictment, on October 26, between approximately 7 p.m. and 8:40 p.m. Apodaca was present in the Kew Garden Hills apartment of his estranged wife, Tania Morales Garcia, and their 2-year-old son.

Police received multiple 911 calls directing them to the victim's apartment. When NYPD officers arrived, they found Morales Garcia lying unresponsive in a pool of blood in the bedroom with multiple stab wounds to her head and body with slash wounds on her arms.

The defendant was present in the apartment with cuts on his hands and blood on his clothing. The 2-year-old son was also in the apartment with blood on his clothing.

The victim was transported to a local hospital where she was pronounced dead from her injuries which included approximately 40 stab wounds, a majority to her back. The child was evaluated at a local hospital and determined to have no physical injuries.

A knife with blood on it was recovered from a dresser.

Apodaca was taken to a local hospital for treatment of cuts on his hands.

The investigation was conducted by Detective Abigail Soto of the 107th Precinct Detective Squad and Detective Anthony Faranda of the Queens South Homicide Squad.

Assistant District Attorney Samantha Delao of the District Attorney's Homicide Bureau is prosecuting the case with the assistance of Assistant District Attorney Caitlyn Muldoon under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys John Kosinski, Bureau Chief, Karen Ross and Jonathan Selkowe, Deputy Chiefs, and under the overall supervision of Chief Assistant District Attorney Shawn Clark.

Criminal complaints and indictments are accusations. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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