



NEWARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police

NEWS RELEASE

October 4, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: Husband Charged with Killing Wife in Newark Home

The Newark Police have charged Michael J. O'Donoghue with Murder 1st Degree and weapons offenses in the death of his wife in their home. The Newark 911 Center received a call from the defendant at 3:51 a.m. on October 4. During the call, Michael O'Donoghue requested the police, stating he had shot his wife.

O'Donoghue followed the commands of the 911 operator and surrendered to the responding police officers in the garage of the house. The victim was found in her bed with bullet wounds and a severe blunt force injury to her head. She was pronounced dead at the scene. The gun and a hatchet believed to be used in the homicide were found in the house.

The defendant:

Michael J. O'Donoghue	4/16/1942 (68 years)	309 Lynley Lane, Newark, DE
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He is charged with Murder 1st Degree, Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony, and Possession of a Deadly Weapon During the Commission of a Felony. After an initial appearance at JP Court 2, he is being held without bail.

The victim is his wife, Nancy L. O'Donoghue, 67 years old.

The investigation into motive and the time of the murder is continuing. Information can be reported to Det. Nick Sansone at 302-366-7110 ext 135 or Nick.Sansone@cj.state.de.us. Information can also be anonymously reported to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333, where a reward may be available.

Anonymous text tips: Text 302NPD and your info to TIP411 (847411).

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The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Media Contact: Lt. Brian Henry, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 125 or brian.henry@cj.state.de.us.

