



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Police charge Columbia man in homicide, assault of couple in apartment

Howard County police have made an arrest in the May 5 homicide of Amanda Nicole Harris and assault of William James Webb in Columbia.

Wilson Orellana-Lemus, 22, of Tamebird Court in Columbia, is charged with first-degree murder, attempted first-degree murder, first-degree assault, first-degree burglary, home invasion and theft.

Police responded to the apartment in the 8800 block of Spiral Cut after family members asked for a check on the residents' welfare last Sunday and found a woman deceased and a man significantly injured. Harris, 36, was pronounced dead at the scene. Webb, 42 was transported to Shock Trauma and remains in critical condition. Both victims' injuries were a result of blunt force trauma.

Through investigation, detectives developed Orellana-Lemus as a suspect. Police believe he entered the apartment through an unsecured window and assaulted both residents with a baseball bat before stealing Harris' jewelry and a cell phone. It does not appear he knew either of the victims.

Orellana-Lemus was taken into custody this morning and is being held without bond at the Howard County Detention Center. This investigation is going.

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