



# NEWS RELEASE

**Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes**  
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## INDICTMENT RETURNED IN DEATH OF NEWBORN

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PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

MAY 3, 2010

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes announces the return of a murder indictment on Monday, May 3, 2010, against Keri Barry, a 22 year-old Wayne woman, in connection with the death of her newborn child on Friday, December 11, 2009.

On December 11, 2009, Ms. Barry gave birth to a full term baby boy at her home in Wayne. Ms. Barry was alone at the time, and made no attempt to seek medical attention. An autopsy determined the child to have been a healthy full-term baby boy, who was born alive. When Ms. Barry's family learned that something was physically wrong with her, they took her to Chilton Hospital in Pompton Plains, where hospital staff realized she had recently given birth. As the whereabouts of the child were not known, the Wayne Police Department was notified, and an investigation begun. A search of the home was consented to, and garbage bags allegedly containing the afterbirth were located and collected. Upon searching the bags at headquarters, the infant's body was found. Following an autopsy, the medical examiner determined the cause of death to have been from asphyxiation.

Ms. Barry was formally arrested on the charges of Aggravated Manslaughter, a crime of the first degree, and Endangering the Welfare of a Child, a crime of the second degree, on December 16, 2009. After hearing the evidence presented last Tuesday, a Passaic County Grand Jury upgraded the Homicide charge to Murder. The indictment also charges Endangering the Welfare of a Child and Hindering Apprehension, a crime of the third degree. Murder carries a potential life sentence, the Endangering the Welfare of a Child carries a maximum

sentence of up to 10 years in prison and the Hindering charge carries a maximum sentence of 5 years in prison. Bail is currently \$150,000 with no 10% cash alternative. It is anticipated that Ms. Barry's arraignment on the indictment will be held within four weeks.

The case is being handled by Senior Assistant Prosecutor Robert C. Pringle who can be contacted at (973) 837-7640, [rpringle@passaiccountynj.org](mailto:rpringle@passaiccountynj.org).

An indictment is merely an accusation. Despite this accusation, the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.