



NEWS RELEASE

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SECOND INDICTMENT RETURNED IN DEATH OF WAYNE NEWBORN

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

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Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes announced that a Passaic County Grand Jury has again returned a Murder indictment in the death of a newborn child by her mother, then 22 year old Keri Barry of Wayne.

On December 11, 2009, Ms. Barry gave birth to a full term baby at her then home located at 173 Alps Road in Wayne. Ms. Barry was alone at the time, and made no attempt to seek medical attention. An autopsy determined the child to be a healthy full-term baby boy, who was born alive and died of asphyxiation. When her family learned that something was physically wrong with her, they took her to Chilton Hospital in Pompton Plains. Despite Barry never informing either her family or hospital staff that she had given birth, hospital staff realized she had recently given birth and were concerned about the baby. As the child was not found, the Wayne Police Department was notified, and an investigation was begun. A search of the home was consented to, and garbage bags were collected where the afterbirth was alleged to have been placed. Upon searching the bags at headquarters, the dead baby was found.

Barry had previously been indicted for Murder and related charges by a Passaic County Grand Jury. The previous indictment had been dismissed by the Honorable Greta Gooden-

Brown in March on the grounds that the previous grand jurors may not have been fully questioned as to any knowledge they may have read about the case in internet postings that had accompanied on-line press articles about the case.

Barry was indicted on the charges of Murder, a crime of the first degree, Endangering the Welfare of a Child, a crime of the second degree, and Hindering Apprehension, a crime of the third degree. Murder carries a potential life sentence in prison, Endangering the Welfare of a Child carries a maximum sentence of up to 10 years in prison, and Hindering Apprehension carries a maximum 5 year prison sentence. Barry is currently free after posting a \$150,000 bail, no 10%. This matter is being handled by Senior Assistant Prosecutor Robert C. Pringle. Senior Assistant Prosecutor Pringle can be reached at (973) 837-7640 or at RPringle@passaiccountynj.org.

It is important to note that the return of an indictment is merely an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.