



NEWS RELEASE

Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes
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UPDATE: SHANAYA COLEY POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED BY REGIONAL MEDICAL EXAMINER

PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

May 8, 2018

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes and Paterson Police Chief Troy Oswald announce today that the Regional Medical Examiner's Office in Newark has positively identified 24-year-old Paterson resident, Shanaya Coley, who was reported missing since December 5, 2017, as the individual discovered deceased on Sunday, May 6, 2018, in the back seat of her registered vehicle.

The cause of Ms. Coley's death has been determined to be puncture and incision wounds and the manner of her death has been determined to be a homicide.

On Sunday, May 6, 2018, at approximately 8:23 a.m., Paterson Police received a call from a concerned citizen regarding an unattended car in the parking lot of a garden apartment complex located at 238 Marion Street in Paterson. When police officers arrived a few minutes later, they discovered a charcoal gray Nissan Altima which was registered to Shanaya Coley. Upon approaching the vehicle, police officers observed what appeared to be a body in the backseat of the vehicle.

The investigation is active and ongoing and is being conducted by the Paterson Police Department in conjunction with the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office. More information will be released once it becomes available.

The Passaic County Prosecutor's Office asks anyone with additional information about this incident to contact us on our tips line at 1-877-370-PCPO or tips@passaiccountynj.org or contact the Paterson Police Department Detective Bureau at 973-321-1120.

For media inquiries concerning this case, contact Chief Assistant Prosecutor Jason Statuto of the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office at jstatuto@passaiccountynj.org or at (973) 837-7733.