



LENEXA POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

September 19, 2024

SUBJECT: Homicide arrest

CASE NUMBER: 2005-11788

On September 15, 2005, our officers responded to the report of suspicious activity at an apartment in the 11900 block of W. 77th Terrace. Officers arrived and found an adult female inside that had been stabbed to death. That victim was identified as **Maria Morfin-Rojas**, 30, of Lenexa.

Lenexa detectives quickly identified a suspect in this case, identified as **Angel Maria Herrera**, of Shawnee, Kansas. Detectives learned that Herrera fled the United States into Mexico a few days prior to the discovery of Morfin-Rojas' body at the Lenexa apartment.

On September 17, 2005, the Johnson County District Attorney's charged Herrera with 1st Degree Murder in this case, and a warrant was issued for his arrest.

On April 27, 2023, our detectives were notified that Herrera had been arrested in El Salvador and was being held pending extradition to the United States.

Yesterday, our lead detective that has been working on this case since 2005 flew to El Salvador along with federal agents to take custody of Herrera and extradite him back to Johnson County. Herrera was booked into the Johnson County Adult Detention Center this morning to await his arraignment in Johnson County District Court for the murder of Morfin-Rojas.

The investigation, arrest, and extradition of Herrera are the culmination of many years of diligent work by Lenexa officers, detectives, the Johnson County Crime Lab, the Johnson County District Attorney's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and others who have tirelessly sought for justice for Maria Morfin-Rojas.

MPO Danny Chavez
Public Information Officer
913-477-7737
dchavez@lenexa.com

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