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Press Release

Woman murdered in Braintree, former neighbor in custody

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A well-known Braintree nurse was shot and killed in the entryway of her Howie Road home this morning (June 17, 2020) and a former neighbor has been taken into custody, Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey and Braintree Police Chief Mark Dubois announced at an early afternoon press conference.

Braintree police were dispatched to the area of 64 Howie Road responding to multiple 911 calls. They arrived to find Laurie Melchionda, age 59, with obvious, multiple injuries, and her former neighbor, Robert Bonang, 61, now of Marshfield, still on scene. Bonang obeyed police commands and was taken into custody.

Melchionda was rushed to South Shore Hospital by Brewster Ambulance. She did not survive her injuries.

Bonang will remain in custody overnight and is expected to be arraigned on murder and firearms charges tomorrow, Thursday, June 18, 2020. Any media outlets interested in observing the arraignment, which is expected to be a remote electronic arraignment, should seek access through the criminal clerk's office of the Quincy District Court.

State Police Crime Scene Services Section, Photo, Ballistics, and detectives from the Braintree Police Department and the State Police Detective Unit – Norfolk District Attorney's Office, continue to investigate the incident, collect evidence, and process the crime scene.

All defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.