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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUSPECT ARRESTED IN LOWER MERION HOMICIDE



NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Aug. 29, 2018) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and Lower Merion Township Police Superintendent Michael J. McGrath announce the arrest of Jonathan Wesley Harris for the murder of Christina Kraft.

On August 27, 2018 surveillance video and photographs obtained during the homicide investigation that depict the defendant were released to the media. The following day a concerned citizen contacted the Lower Merion Police and identified the defendant. Last evening, August 28, 2018 detectives filed an arrest warrant charging Jonathan Wesley Harris, with First Degree Murder and related offenses for the August 22, 2018 killing of Christina Kraft. The defendant was apprehended this afternoon in Pittsburgh after fleeing the Philadelphia area.

The investigation revealed that in the early morning hours of August 22nd Christina Kraft left her apartment on Sibley Avenue in Ardmore. She utilized the services of a Lyft driver, who brought her to Center City and dropped her off on the 1400 block of Chestnut Street. Investigators were able to obtain video that showed the victim meeting the defendant near South Broad and 13th Streets. A short time later the defendant and victim appeared to enter a vehicle. Then shortly after 3:00 am the victim and defendant entered the Ms. Kraft's apartment building on Sibley Avenue. Records indicate that the front door of the apartment opened at 3:08 am and the back door leading to a terrace was closed at 5:19 am. During this time a violent struggle occurred in the apartment where Ms. Kraft was beaten, her nose was broken and she was strangled to death. The victim's body was not located until the evening of the 22nd during a wellness check on her by police.

The defendant will be brought back to Montgomery County to face the charges.

Approved for release:

Kevin R. Steele

CRIMINAL CHARGES, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF, ARE MERELY ALLEGATIONS AND ALL DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.