

NEWS RELEASE



Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office
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Luis A. Valentin, Prosecutor

MONMOUTH COUNTY AUTHORITIES ARREST TWO NEW YORK CITY MEN IN CONNECTION WITH FREEHOLD BOROUGH DOUBLE HOMICIDE

Dong Biao Lin, 24, and Zeng Liang Chen, 20, both of New York City, N.Y., have been arrested and charged in connection with a double homicide which occurred in Freehold Borough on June 16, 2010.

During the early evening of Wednesday, June 16, 2010, Freehold Borough police responded to a call from a motorist reporting that there was an injured man located on South Street in Freehold Borough. The responding police officers found Mr. Yao Chen, 39, of Freehold Borough, in the street in front of his residence, conscious and attempting to move about, with his hands bound.

While tending to Mr. Chen in the street, police received information that there were two young Asian males on Main Street in Freehold Borough who appeared to have recently been in an altercation. A description of the two young Asian males was broadcast over police radio and, a short time later, Lieutenant John Todd of the Freehold Township Police Department located the two men near Route 9 and took them into custody. The two men were later identified as Lin and Chen.

Mr. Chen was bleeding profusely from multiple knife injuries to his body, including severe injuries to his neck and abdomen. Mr. Chen was transported to Jersey Shore University Medical Center where, despite life-saving efforts, he was pronounced dead at 5:54 p.m. by Dr. Niveen Hanna.

Police found the lifeless body of Mrs. Yun Juan Chen, 28, located in a bedroom inside the family's South Street residence. Mrs. Chen also sustained injuries during the armed robbery. Mr. Chen and Mrs. Chen were brother and sister.

The Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office and the Freehold Borough Police Department immediately commenced a joint investigation into the double homicide. The Freehold Township, Tinton Falls and Piscataway police departments assisted in the investigation. The Monmouth County Sheriff's Office also provided vital assistance to the investigation.

The investigation revealed that Lin had worked previously in a Freehold-area restaurant owned by the Chen family. The two men broke into the home while Mr. Chen and Mrs. Chen were inside, believing that there was a significant quantity of cash within the residence. Other members of the Chen family who resided in the residence were working at a nearby family-owned restaurant at the time of the break-in. Lin and Chen attacked the victims inside the home before fleeing the scene. Mr. Chen made his way outside and to the street where he was observed by a passerby.

Lin and Chen are each charged with two counts of first degree Murder and first degree Felony Murder. The two men are also charged with one count each of third degree Possession of a Weapon for an Unlawful Purpose, second degree Armed Burglary and first degree Armed Robbery. Due to the existence of special factors provided under New Jersey Law, both men, if convicted will be facing the possibility of life in prison without parole.

The lead Detectives on the investigation are Detective Michael Magliozzo of the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office and Detective Christopher Otlowski of the Freehold Borough Police Department. Notwithstanding the arrests, the investigation is ongoing and Detectives are seeking potential witnesses to the crime or the men's flight thereafter. Images of Lin and Chen accompany this News Release in order to assist members of the public in ascertaining whether they possess information regarding the men. Any individuals possessing information which may further the investigation are urged to contact Detective Magliozzo at 1-800/ 533-7443 and/or Detective Otlowski at 732/ 462-1234.

Monmouth County Superior Court Judge Thomas F. Scully set bail for both men at \$3,000,000 "cash only" with a requirement that there be a bail source hearing in the event that either of the two men posts bail.

Monmouth County Prosecutor Luis A. Valentin praised the efforts of all the officers and agencies involved. Prosecutor Valentin stated, "The quick and decisive actions of the initial responding officers were crucial to the speedy and successful apprehension of the defendants." Prosecutor Valentin also commended Patrolman Robert Wei of the Piscataway Police Department for the translation services he rendered during the investigation.

Autopsies of both victims are scheduled to be performed today. Initial appearances for both men have been scheduled before Judge Scully in the Monmouth County Courthouse at 11:00 a.m. on June 18, 2010.

The case is assigned to Assistant Prosecutor Marc C. LeMieux, Director of the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office's Major Crimes Unit. Defense counsel has not yet entered an appearance with the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office on behalf of either of the two men.

Despite these charges, every defendant is presumed innocent, unless and until found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, following a trial at which the defendant has all of the trial rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and State law.

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