



LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Francis L. Carroll, *Chief of Police*

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WOMAN ARRESTED FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER

LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP (August 29, 2012) - On Tuesday, August 28, 2012, at 5:54 P.M., the Lower Providence Township Police Department was dispatched to a report of a disturbance in the 100 block of Eaglestream Drive in the Eagleville section of the Township. Initial responding officers came upon a 5-year-old female sitting on the steps of an apartment building who advised the officers that her mother and grandmother were fighting and directed the officers to an apartment unit in the building.

The officers entered the apartment unit and observed the suspect, Lauren Kimmel, 29, of the 100 block of Eaglestream Drive, Eagleville, PA on top of the victim, Barbara Gress, 59, of the 100 block of Magnolia Court, Collegeville, PA. Kimmel had one hand over the mouth and nose of Gress and her other hand on Gress's throat. The officers took Kimmel into custody. Gress's shirt was soaked in blood and the officers observed that she had sustained a stab wound of her upper left chest. The officers asked Gress what had happened and she replied, "She stabbed me."

Lower Providence Emergency Medical Services were summoned and treated Gress at the scene and then transported her to a landing zone at the Lower Providence Volunteer Fire Company at Ridge Pike and East Mount Kirk Avenue. Gress was transferred to a PennStar medical helicopter which transported her to the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania where she was admitted as result of her injuries.

Kimmel was transported to the Lower Providence Township Police Department where she was processed. Kimmel was charged with Criminal Attempt at Murder, Aggravated Assault, Simple Assault, Recklessly Endangering Another Person, Possessing Instruments of Crime, and Endangering the Welfare of Children.

The 5-year-old child was turned over to the custody of a family member.

The preliminary investigation revealed that Gress and the child, who lives with Gress and is Kimmel's child, were visiting Kimmel in her apartment. Gress, who is Kimmel's mother and the child's grandmother, was sitting on a couch in the living room area of the apartment watching television when Kimmel, without provocation, approached

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Gress and stabbed her in the chest with a serrated steak knife with a four inch blade. Kimmel then continued to assault Gress with her hands.

Kimmel was provided a preliminary arraignment before Magisterial District Judge Cathleen Kelly Rebar of Collegeville. Bail was set at \$500,000.00 cash. A preliminary hearing was scheduled for Wednesday, September 5, 2012, at 10:00 A.M. before Judge Rebar. Kimmel was committed to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility in default of bail.

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Chief Francis L. Carroll
8/29/12 1625 Hrs.