



## LANCASTER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

# NEWS RELEASE

City of Lancaster  
Bureau of Police, 39 West Chestnut Street, Lancaster, Pa. 17603  
[www.lancasterpolice.com](http://www.lancasterpolice.com)

Author: Capt. Kent Switzer

Contact Number: (717) 73503301

Date: April 19, 2011

### Arrest made in Homicide

On 16 April 2011, at approx. 12:51 am, Officers from the Lancaster City Bureau of Police were dispatched to the 1st block of Old Dorwart Street for a report of shots fired. Officers arrived in the area and discovered a female victim inside 26 Old Dorwart Street, who had been shot. The victim was taken to Lancaster General Hospital, where she was pronounced dead a short time later. The victim is a 33 year old female, who is a resident of Lancaster City. The identity of the victim is being withheld, pending notification of next of kin.

Detectives were notified and are in the process of interviewing witnesses and processing the crime scene. The investigation is in the very early stages at this time, however, this does not appear to be a random act of violence.

The Lancaster City Bureau of Police has identified the female who was shot and killed at 26 Old Dorwart Street, earlier in the morning of 17 April 11. The victim has been identified as 33 year old, Diana Spencer, of Lancaster.

Investigators are continuing the investigation into Spencer's death and have been interviewing witnesses throughout the day.

The Lancaster City Police continued to investigate the shooting death of Diana Spencer, with the assistance of the Lancaster County District Attorney's Office and County Detectives. Investigators are following up on information received from tips, as well as other interviews. Investigators have also been in contact with the Lancaster Community Safety Coalition and are reviewing footage from cameras in the area. As a result of the investigation thus far, investigators have developed descriptions of two suspects believed to be involved in the death of Spencer. City Police Detectives are attempting to identify the following suspects:

Suspect #1 – an unknown male, possibly black or having a dark complexion

Approx. 20-30 years old

Short, dark afro-style haircut, thin build

Dark colored jacket or sweatshirt, baggie jeans

Suspect #2 - an unknown male, possibly black or having a dark complexion



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Approx. 20-30 years old  
Medium build, approx. 5'9" tall  
Dark colored hooded sweatshirt, baggie jeans

Investigators are requesting that anyone who may have seen the suspects in the area of Old Dorwart Street or around the time of the homicide to please contact the City Police Detectives.

### UPDATED INFORMATION ON ARREST AS OF 19 APRIL 11:

As the investigation into this Homicide continued throughout Monday and into Tuesday, Detectives were able to develop the below two individuals as the suspects involved in this shooting....

Oscar Manuel Martinez, 18  
800 Blk Manor St.  
Lancaster, Pa.

Christopher L. Lassitter, 24 \*\*\*WANTED\*\*\*  
LKA: 300 Blk Mill St.  
Lancaster, Pa.  
Approx. 5'9" to 5'10" tall, 160 lbs

As a result, Detectives began to conduct surveillance on several locations in Lancaster City Tuesday evening, in search of these suspects. City Police enlisted the assistance of the Lancaster County SERT TEAM, as well as the Lancaster County District Attorney's Office Detectives in an effort to locate these two suspects. During this time, it was discovered that Oscar Martinez was inside his residence in the 800 Blk Manor St and after making telephone contact with Martinez and his family members, he walked outside of his residence and turned himself into Lancaster County SERT Officers shortly after 9:20 pm, Tuesday evening, 19 April 11. Martinez was then conveyed to the Lancaster City Police Station, where he was interviewed by Detectives.



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Martinez and Lassitter are being charged with Criminal Homicide and Criminal Conspiracy(to Commit Homicide) by Detective Kurt Miller before Magisterial District Judge Cheryl Hartman. Martinez is being held for arraignment and the search for Lassitter is continuing. Investigators are also exploring the possibility that others were involved as well.

Anyone with information as to the whereabouts of Lassitter or any other information related to this case, is asked to contact the Lancaster City Police at 735-3301. Callers are reminded that they do not have to give their names to provide information.

\*\*\*The Lancaster City Police is respectfully requesting that the news media limit what is published in this case to that which is on this news release and to specifically refrain from publishing the names of any witnesses, should they become known, so as not to jeopardize anyone nor this ongoing investigation.\*\*\*

*(end of release)*