



**Cape May County
Prosecutor's Office**

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NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 1, 2007

Cape May Court House, New Jersey - Cape May County Prosecutor Robert L. Taylor and Chief Joseph Evangelista of the Middle Township Police Department report the April 30, 2007 investigation of a missing person, subsequently identified as 46 year old Brian LYNCH, of Lansdowne, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Early last evening, a family member of Lynch contacted the Middle Township Police to report that Lynch was a missing person, was depressed and may be in a family member's seasonal residence in Middle Township. Middle Township Police Patrol Units made contact with Lynch in the 200 block of First Avenue in the Mayville section of Middle Township. At that time, Lynch stated that he was not suicidal and was not in possession of any weapons. A short time later, Middle Township Police returned to the residence to serve Lynch with legal papers received from Pennsylvania authorities. Upon the officer approaching the door, a single gunshot was heard from inside the residence. Middle Township Police Officers, along with members of the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office Rapid Response Unit and the Cape May County Regional SWAT Team North responded to set up a perimeter and evacuate residents from neighboring houses.

During the ensuing three hours, numerous attempts were made by telephone and other methods to contact Lynch by members of the Middle Township Crisis Negotiation Team without success. Eventually, SWAT Team members were able to confirm that Lynch was inside the residence and was incapacitated. Subsequent investigation by members of the Middle Township Police Detective Division and the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office Crime Scene Unit determined that Lynch was deceased from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Prosecutor Taylor and Chief Evangelista recognize the cooperative efforts of all of the agencies involved in this operation.