



**Jeffrey R. Gahler**  
Sheriff

# Harford County Sheriff's Office

## Office of Media and Public Relations

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## NEWS RELEASE

### Arrest Made in Havre de Grace Homicide

**For Immediate Release: Kyle Andersen, HCSO Media & Public Relations, 410-836-5224**

*[December 22, 2017, Havre de Grace, MD]* An Aberdeen man is in jail after Harford County Sheriff's Office Detectives charged him with murder following the discovery of a woman's body in Havre de Grace early Thursday morning.

On December 21, 2017, at approximately 7:42 a.m., deputies assigned to the Southern Precinct of the Harford County Sheriff's Office responded to the 700 block of Stafford Road for the report of an unconscious woman lying in a parking lot within Susquehanna State Park. Upon arrival, deputies located the victim, identified as Lauren Michelle Walls, 34 of Street, who was obviously deceased. Deputies, with the assistance of officers with the Natural Resources Police, secured the scene and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner was called.

Detectives from the Harford County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Division were requested to respond and assume the investigation. Investigators from the Forensic Services Unit responded to document the scene and collect evidence.

Walls' cause of death is pending an autopsy by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

The initial investigation determined Walls was in a relationship with an individual identified as Brandon Allen Wovas, 25 of Aberdeen. At some point between the evening of December 20 and the morning of December 21, Wovas killed Walls while in the 700 block of Stafford Road. Wovas left Walls' body in the parking lot and left the scene. Once Wovas was identified as a suspect, deputies were able to locate him and take him into custody without incident. He is charged with first and second degree murder, first and second degree assault and other related charges.

After being interviewed by Sheriff's Office detectives, Wovas was transported to the Harford County Detention Center where he is being held without bail.

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#### Harford County Sheriff's Office Mission

*With courage, honor and integrity we protect the rights and dignity of all citizens. In partnership with our communities, we strive to preserve the peace and provide for a safe environment for all.*