



*Hanover County Sheriff's Office*  
*Colonel V. Stuart Cook, Sheriff*



**News Release**

Contact Lt. Doug Goodman (804)-365-6312

February 6, 2004

Last night, at 7:34 p.m., Sheriff's deputies responded to a 911 emergency call at 7251 Walnut Grove Court in Mechanicsville. Upon their arrival, they discovered a 38 year old Hispanic female inside the residence suffering from apparent stab wounds. She was declared dead at the scene.

The first deputies on the scene also located a suspect in the residence and took him into custody without incident. 38 year old Gerardo Humberto Alvares, who lives at this residence, was charged with First Degree Murder of his wife, 38 year old Bartola Blanco de Alvarez.

At this time investigators are still working on the case and are trying to determine the sequence of events that sparked this violent act. Both the suspect and the victim lived in this residence with their two pre-teen children. The suspect is being held in the Pamunkey Regional Jail with no bond.

"Walnut Grove is a very peaceful community and we are confident that this is an isolated incident," said Colonel V. Stuart Cook. "We ask that the community keep families and the children left behind in their thoughts and prayers as they cope with this tragedy."

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call on Lt. Doug Goodman at 365-6312.

Colonel V. Stuart Cook  
Sheriff