



# NEWS RELEASE

**Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes**  
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## **BODY DISCOVERED FOLLOWING A FIRE IN THE ABANDONED RESIDENCE LOCATED AT 69 MERCER STREET IN PATERSON**

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PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

February 29, 2024

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes, Paterson Police Department Officer In Charge Isa Abbassi, and Paterson Fire Chief Alex Alicea announce that on February 29, 2024, at approximately 3:30 a.m., members of the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office Fatal Investigations Unit received notification of a possible fatality in an abandoned building that was on fire in the area of Franklin Street and Mercer Street in the city of Paterson. Upon extinguishing the fire at 69 Mercer Street, the Paterson Fire Department discovered the body of a deceased person on the second floor of the house. Identification of the deceased has not been confirmed and is pending an investigation by the Medical Examiner's Office.

This investigation is active and ongoing. More information will be released when it becomes available.

The Passaic County Prosecutor's Office asks anyone with additional information about this incident to contact us on our tips line at 1-877-370-PCPO or [tips@passaiccountynj.org](mailto:tips@passaiccountynj.org).

For media inquiries concerning this case, contact Chief Assistant Prosecutor Allan Nawrocki of the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office Fatal Investigations Unit at [anawrocki@passaiccountynj.org](mailto:anawrocki@passaiccountynj.org) or at (973) 837-7768.