



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Press Release

Defendants in 2017 Braintree hotel murder Returned to Mass for Arraignment

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Co-defendants Kentavious Coleman, age 20, and Kenyonte Galmore, 22, have been returned to Massachusetts from custody in Mississippi and are due to be arraigned at 2:00 p.m. in the Norfolk Superior Court on Monday, June 25, 2018 for the June 22, 2017 murder of Reina Rodriguez

A third murder co-defendant, Juana Rivera, 20 of Lynn pled not guilty at her Norfolk Superior Court arraignment on April 30, 2018. Her next date in Norfolk Superior Court is July 26, 2018.

Jason McLeod, 35, of Mattapan pled not guilty on May 4, 2018 to indictments for human trafficking and deriving support from prostitution, related to his relationship with Rodriguez, based on information developed as part of the homicide investigation by Massachusetts State Police and Braintree Police detectives. He is due back in Norfolk Superior Court on June 27, 2018.

Reina Rodriguez was found dead in room at the Braintree Hyatt Place Hotel on June 22, 2017, bound with telephone cords. The discovery began an intense investigation by Braintree and State Police, leading to the indictments.

UPDATE AS OF MONDAY, JUNE 25:

Defendants Kentavious Coleman, represented by defense attorney Timothy Bradl, and Kenyonte Galmore, represented by attorney Michael Cashman, pled not guilty at their Norfolk Superior Court indictments shortly after 2 p.m. today. Each defendant stands indicted for murder, unarmed robbery, kidnapping, conspiracy to commit murder, and conspiracy to unarmed robbery.

Judge Thomas Connors ordered the men held without bail, but set those terms without prejudice. Each is due back in Norfolk Superior Court on July 26 for pre-trial conference, with an anticipated subsequent Sept. 20 pre-trial hearing date.

Please note that co-defendant Juana Rivera, who is also due back July 26, has turned 21.

Several friends and family members of murder victim Reina Rodriguez attended the arraignment.

All criminal defendants enjoy the Constitutional presumption of innocence unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.