

**Bristol County District Attorney's Office
C. Samuel Sutter
District Attorney**

**Press Release
November 23, 2010**

District Attorney Sam Sutter announced that charges against Charles Douglas Mendez, 28, of Fall River, have been upgraded to murder. Mr. Mendez will be arraigned this morning in Fall River District Court on the new charge. The charge is connected to the November 18th slaying of 31-year-old Edward Platts of Middletown, RI. Mr. Mendez also is charged with carrying an illegal firearm.

His co-defendant, Tacoma Massie, 29, of Fall River, is charged with carrying an illegal firearm. A dangerousness hearing will be held for Mr. Massie today in Fall River District Court.

Fall River Police received a 911 call regarding shots fired outside of Building 11 in the Father Diaferio Village housing development, located at 220 Johnson St., last Thursday night around 6:45 p.m.

The homicide victim died as a result of a gun-shot wound, while sitting in his vehicle outside Building 11.

The two defendants were apprehended by state and local police shortly after the incident in the area of Kellogg and Osborn Streets. The two men were initially arraigned last Friday and ordered held without bail pending the results of dangerousness hearings scheduled for today. Due to the upgraded murder charge, there will no longer be a dangerousness hearing for Mr. Mendez.

Update

The murder arraignment for Charles Mendez and the illegal firearm Dangerousness Hearing for Tacoma Massie have both been postponed until Monday morning in Fall River District Court. Both defendants will continue to be held without bail in the meantime.