

8

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA CRIMINAL DIVISION

UNITED STATES v. DIANNA YVONE LALCHAN

On March 28, 2013, at approximately 12:06 a.m., the Office of Unified Communications received a 911 call for a shooting inside 1250 – 4th Street, Southwest, Unit W-100, Washington, D.C. The caller stated to the 911 operator, “I shot my husband.” MPD officers and DC Fire Department emergency personnel arrived at 1250-4th Street Southwest, Unit W-100, Washington, DC, and located an unconscious male, later identified as Christopher S. Lalchan and hereinafter the decedent, lying on the living room floor inside the unit with a gunshot wound to the back of the head. Death was apparent and the decedent remained on the scene.

During the processing of the scene, police located shell casings next to the decedent’s right foot, one shell casing was found in the hallway near the bedroom door that leads to the living room, and a third shell casing was found on top of the air mattress in the living room several feet from the decedent. Subsequently, on the same day, the decedent was transported to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner for the District of Columbia where an autopsy was conducted. Deputy Chief Medical Examiner Pestaner ruled that the cause of death was a gunshot wound to the head and that the manner of death was ruled a homicide.

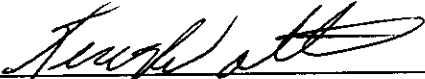
The defendant, who identified herself as Dianna Y. Lalchan, after being advised of her rights invoked and then requested to speak with the police. She was read her rights a second time and waived them. The defendant reported that she had been married to the decedent for four years. She claimed that on the evening of March 27, 2013, her husband, Christopher S. Lalchan called her and asked her to come home. She arrived home at approximately 5:00 p.m.

During the course of the evening, the defendant and decedent engaged in several arguments. There were four weapons in the home – two .40 caliber handguns, a Black Powder .44 caliber antique gun, and .38 caliber revolver. Neither the decedent nor the defendants were registered to have weapons. The defendant claimed that in the past that she had been the victim of domestic abuse; however, no reports of abuse were ever filed.


The defendant claimed that this night the decedent had placed one a .40 caliber on the television stand in the living room. The decedent told her that he was placing the gun on the stand to make her feel safe. According to the defendant, as the decedent walked away from the television stand, without provocation, she picked up the .40 caliber pistol and fired it at him three times. The defendant claimed that she was in fear of being attacked and fired the weapon as the decedent approached her. The defendant did not appear to have any injuries, except a small bruise on her left arm which she stated she received while training at a martial arts self-defense class. During the interview, she stated that the defendant did not physically assault her that night nor did he threaten physical harm to him. The defendant admitted that she called 911 and reported that she shot her husband.

The events and acts described above occurred primarily in the District of Columbia and were committed as described by defendant listed in the case caption.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE THIS DAY OF MARCH 28, 2013



Detective King Watts
D.C. Metropolitan Police Department



Deputy Clerk