

CAPITOLA HOMICIDE

Arraignment postponed for murder suspect

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SANTA CRUZ — Arraignment has been postponed to Jan. 5 for the suspect accused of killing a 36-year-old man at a Capitola home Sunday.

Marcos Chavez, 23, was originally scheduled to be arraigned Wednesday morning. He appeared in Santa Cruz County Court briefly and was appointed a public defender, Diana August, who asked to push back the arraignment to give her time to go over the case she'd just been handed.

Chavez was arrested early Monday morning on suspicion of murdering Ronald Aaron Carpenter.

Carpenter, 36, was found dead in a home on the 3200 block of Virgil Lane just before 11 p.m. Sunday. Chavez lived at a studio apartment at the home.

As of Wednesday afternoon, Capitola police had not said how the two knew each oth-



CHAVEZ



CARPENTER

er nor had a possible motive been released.

The investigation is ongoing, Capitola Police Chief Michael Card said.

Police responded to the Virgil Lane home after reports of a domestic disturbance and found Carpenter dead. He'd been stabbed, and suffered bruises and abrasions, but the official cause of death has not yet been released.

Sheriff's Lt. Fred Plageman said Wednesday that the autopsy had not yet been completed. Carpenter was a U.S. Army veteran who was studying to be an emergency medical technician at Cabrillo College, according to his friends and family.