

CAPITOLA

## Few details released in Capitola homicide

Investigators in the homicide of 36-year-old Aaron Carpenter said Thursday that they handed their case to Santa Cruz County prosecutors.



CHAVEZ

The official cause of death has not yet been released, although Capitola police have said Carpenter was stabbed several times.

"The autopsy is largely completed, but we don't have a final, definitive bit of information," said prosecutor Celia Rowland, who said she needed to confer with the medical examiner.

Carpenter was found dead in a home on the 3200 block of Virgil Lane just before 11 p.m. Sunday. Marcos Chavez, 23, who lived in a studio apartment at the home, was arrested Monday morning on suspi-

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cion of Carpenter's murder, police said. He is due in court Jan. 5 to enter a plea.

The exact nature of the relationship between Chavez and Carpenter has not been determined at this point.

"It does appear that they knew each other in the sense that they had met, but at this point we don't know if they even had what could be called an acquaintanceship, much less a friendship or something more," said Rowland.

Rowland said she planned to meet with detectives and the Capitola Police Department late Thursday and more information on the case likely will be released after that.

Carpenter, a U.S. Army veteran, was a Cabrillo College paramedic student who lived in Capitola. His family said Thursday they haven't been given any further information in the case.