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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**EMMAUS MAN CHARGED IN FATAL BEATING**

An Emmaus man has been charged with involuntary manslaughter and aggravated assault in the fatal beating of a 70-year-old borough man in August 2013.

Alexander Octa Roscioli, 22, of 314 S. Broom St., Apartment 3, Emmaus, turned himself in to authorities on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2013. He was to be arraigned later that morning in Lehigh County Central Booking.

Roscioli was charged with involuntary manslaughter, a first-degree misdemeanor, for acting in a reckless or grossly negligent manner and causing the victim's death and aggravated assault, a first-degree felony.

An affidavit of probable cause filed by Sgt. Karl Geschwindt of the Emmaus Police Department and Detective Richard Heffelfinger of the Lehigh County District Attorney's Homicide Task Force alleges:

At about 2:41 a.m. on Aug. 30, 2013, Emmaus police responded to 314 S. Broom St. in Emmaus after receiving a report that an elderly man had been assaulted and was bleeding and unresponsive.

The victim, John Sweeney Sr., was taken by emergency medical personnel to Lehigh Valley

Hospital, Salisbury Township, where he was in critical condition.

The victim died the next day. A forensic pathologist who performed an autopsy determined that the cause of death was blunt force trauma to the head. The victim had a skull fracture, broken ribs and a cerebral hemorrhage, in addition to other injuries. Lehigh County Coroner Scott Grim ruled the death a homicide.

Police said Sweeney had been punched and kicked by the defendant after Sweeney struck the defendant with a plastic hockey stick during a dispute and verbal confrontation.

**As in every criminal case, the fact that an arrest has occurred or a complaint has been filed is merely an accusation; and the defendant, Alexander Octa Roscioli, is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.**

Allentown

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