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**COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY STEVE DESCANO ANNOUNCES
BRENDAN BANFIELD INDICTED ON ADDITIONAL CHARGES**

Fairfax County, VA — Commonwealth's Attorney Steve Descano announced today that a grand jury indicted Brendan Banfield on one count of felony child abuse and neglect and one count of felony child cruelty relating to the events of February 24, 2023.

Banfield, 39, is alleged to have stabbed his wife, Christine Banfield, 37, and shot Joseph Ryan, 38, on the morning of February 24, 2023, in the Banfield home in Reston. Banfield was arrested on September 16, 2024, and indicted on 4 counts of aggravated murder and one count of use of a firearm in the commission of a felony. The family's live-in au pair, Juliana Peres Magalhaes, 24, was arrested in October 2023 and charged with murder and the use of a firearm in the commission of a felony for the death of Joseph Ryan. She pled guilty to manslaughter on October 29, 2024, and awaits her sentencing date in custody.

CA Steve Descano said, "Additional information has come to light over the course of our investigation, and we believe these additional charges reflect the events that occurred in the house on that day. My office is committed to bringing the strongest case possible against Brendan Banfield for the alleged murders of Christine Banfield and Joseph Ryan."

The indictments allege that Banfield's actions on that day involving his then 4-year-old daughter, who was present at the scene, were criminal in nature.

Banfield's trial date is currently set for February 3, 2025. Peres Magalhaes' sentencing date is currently set for March 21, 2025.

A criminal indictment is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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