

Man accused of killing 2 in nursing home appears in court

By Brian Rogers | April 28, 2014 | Updated: April 28, 2014 8:06pm

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Photo By family photo

Primitivo Lopez, one of the men killed at nursing home.

A Houston man accused of killing his two nursing home roommates with the armrest of a wheelchair may have been trying to flee the facility after the bludgeoning, prosecutors said Monday.

A nurse at the **Lexington Place Nursing and Rehabilitation Center** thought it was strange that 56-year-old **Guillermo Correa** was wearing all his clothes and lying on top of the covers of his bed while his roommates were sleeping the night of April 22, said prosecutor **Natalie Tise**.

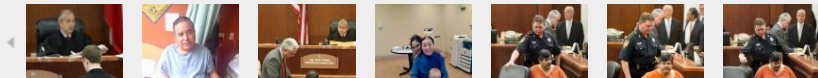
When she returned to the room 20 minutes later, the nurse found blood spattered on the walls and ceiling, Tise said. **Antonio Acosta**, 77, and **Primitivo Lopez**, 51, were dead, and Correa was gone.

A trail of blood led staffers to Correa, who was on the phone in the waiting room. He still had the bloody wheelchair armrest with him.

"It's a really sad case," Tise said after Correa appeared in court Monday. She said authorities are continuing to investigate Correa's mental health.

State District Judge **David Mendoza** read Correa his rights, said he would stay in jail without bail and appointed attorney **Rudy Duarte** to represent him.

◀ 2 of 7 ▶



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Duarte was not in court for the brief hearing.

Correa, who said in court he had lived in the U.S. for 36 years, used a Spanish translator to address the judge. He was dressed in an orange jail uniform and appeared in a wheelchair.

Correa is charged with capital murder in the two deaths. If convicted, he could face the death penalty. Whether the Harris County District Attorney's Office will seek death in a capital case is a decision that typically takes months.

Police said the two victims suffered head trauma and were pronounced dead at the scene.

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