Suspect, 14, surrenders in killing of friend

By Thomas J. Gibbons Jr.

A 14-year-old North Philadelphia youth was charged with murder yesterday in the Monday afternoon shooting of Hector Rodriguez, 18, during an argument in the 2800 block of North Hutchinson Street.

Gregory Scott-Toney, who was described as a friend of Rodriguez's, surrendered at the Police Administration Building in the company of his attorney, Marc Neff. He was held without bail at a preliminary arraignment and faces a further hearing next Wednesday in City Hall.

Detectives last night refused to give a motive for the slaying, which occurred about 3:50 p.m. Rodriguez was shot at least five times as he stood just off the curb on a narrow street filled with graffiti and a scattering of boarded-up houses.

His mother and stepfather drove him to Episcopal Hospital, where he died within minutes. Investigators said the shooting was the result of an argument between the two.

Investigators said the murder weapon was not immediately recovered.