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**For Immediate Release**

**December 15, 2016**

**BRONX MAN SENTENCED TO 20-YEARS-TO-LIFE**

**FOR MURDER IN 2013 SHOOTING**

**Defendant Also Sentenced For Gun Charge: Distinctive Tattoo On His Arm Holding Murder Weapon In Photo On Facebook**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a 21-year-old Bronx man has been sentenced after being convicted of second-degree Murder for the 2013 shooting of a 19-year-old man in the Tremont section of the Bronx. He was also sentenced for gun possession based on a photograph of him holding the murder weapon posted on Facebook.

District Attorney Clark said, “This defendant shot a young man during a dispute and a posted a photo on Facebook of him holding the weapon. His conviction and sentencing sends a message to those who espouse the culture of guns and violence that it is not tolerated in the Bronx.”

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Jesswill Perez, 21, of 67 West 175th Street, was sentenced today, December 15, 2016, before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Nicholas Iacovetta to 20 years-to-life in prison. Perez was found guilty of second-degree Murder and second-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon with Intent to Use on November 28, 2016, after a four-week trial.

According to trial testimony, at 7:30 p.m. on December 20, 2013, in front of a bank branch at 795 East Tremont Ave., Perez argued with Edwin Molina, 19, whom he knew. Perez pulled a .25-caliber pistol and shot Molina three times. Perez was arrested February 8, 2014 with the murder weapon and a 9-mm pistol in his possession. The firearms were suppressed at a pre-trial hearing but a Facebook photograph of Perez’ arm--with an ornate tattoo reading “Money Power Respect,” the hand holding the .25-caliber pistol--was entered into evidence.

 The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Rachel Kalman and Masateru Marubashi, under the supervision of Christine Scaccia, Deputy Chief of the Homicide Bureau, and the overall supervision of Nicole Keary, Deputy Chief of the Trial Division and Jeremy Shockett, Chief of the Trial Division. District Attorney Clark also thanked 48th Precinct Detective Carlos Mena.

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