



www.bronxda.nyc.gov
www.facebook.com/BronxDistrictAttorney
www.twitter.com/BronxDAClark

DARCEL D. CLARK
DISTRICT ATTORNEY, BRONX COUNTY

198 EAST 161ST STREET
BRONX, N.Y. 10451
(718) 590-2234

18-2017
For Immediate Release
March 20, 2017

BRONX MAN INDICTED FOR RAPE, MURDER OF NEIGHBOR IN 1999 **Defendant's DNA Was Taken In 2016 Arrest And Matched To Evidence on Victim**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man has been indicted on murder and rape charges for the 1999 killing of his neighbor.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendant allegedly stabbed the victim repeatedly and raped her in her apartment, in the same building in which he lived. After two decades he was finally brought to justice when his DNA was taken after a minor arrest and it matched evidence from the crime scene. Victims of such atrocious crimes will never be forgotten, no matter how long it takes to get the perpetrator."

District Attorney Clark said that Curtis Batchelor, 41, of the Bronx, was charged with first-degree Murder, two counts of second-degree Murder, and first-degree Rape. He was arraigned today before Bronx Supreme Court Justice William Mogulescu and is due back in court on April 13, 2017.

According to the investigation, on or about and between May 25, 1999 and May 27, 1999, in 825 Gerard Avenue, Batchelor stabbed Elsa Grullon multiple times in the neck and chest, in the course of raping her.

Batchelor was arrested in January, 2016, and his DNA was taken. In March, 2016, the DNA was found to match semen recovered from the victim's body. Further investigation led to the arrest of Batchelor on Feb. 27, 2017.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Michael Schordine and Morgan Dolan, under the supervision of Christine Scaccia, 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.

An indictment is an accusatory instrument and not proof of a defendant's guilt.