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**DARCEL D. CLARK**DISTRICT ATTORNEY, BRONX COUNTY

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## BRONX TEEN INDICTED FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER Defendant Previously Convicted of Attempted Murder When He Was 16

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx teenager with gang ties has been indicted for Attempted Murder for stabbing a 20-year-old Bronx man while on release after pleading guilty to a 2014 shooting of a boy.

District Attorney Clark said "At only 19-years-old, this defendant faces charges of Attempted Murder for the second time in his life. He was given a chance to change the violent trajectory of his life but is now once again looking at the possibility of many years behind bars for the alleged callous stabbing of another young man."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Jeffrey Simon, 19, of Eastburn Ave., was arraigned today before Bronx Supreme Court Justice George Villegas. Bail was continued at \$200,000 and he is due back on April 25, 2017. If convicted on the top charge, he faces up to 25 years in prison.

Simon was indicted on second-degree Attempted Murder, first-degree, second-degree and third-degree Assault and fourth-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon.

According to the investigation, on the night of March 20, 2017, in the area of Grand Concourse and Morris Avenue, Simon allegedly stabbed Kenneth Hawkins, 20, twice in the back. Earlier in the day, Simon allegedly assaulted Hawkins' girlfriend. As a result of the injuries, Hawkins was hospitalized for several days and had to have his spleen removed.

Simon faces up to an additional seven-and-a-half years for an August 5, 2014 shooting he committed when he was 16. He pleaded guilty in 2015 to second-degree Attempted Murder for shooting a 12-year-old boy in the buttocks. He was released into a program pending sentencing by Bronx Supreme Court Justice William Mogulescu, over the objections of the District Attorney's Office.



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The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jeffrey Kimelman Supervisor of Trial Bureau 20 and Assistant District Attorney Masateru Marubashi of Trial Bureau 20, under the supervision of Meredith Holtzman, Bureau Chief of Trial Bureau 20 and the overall supervision of Nicole Keary, Deputy Chief of the Trial Division and Jeremy Shockett, Chief of the Trial Division.

District Attorney Clark thanked Detective Investigator Michael Bunyan for his assistance in the case.

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