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BRONX MAN INDICTED FOR AGGRAVATED CRUELTY TO ANIMALS FOR BRUTAL BEATING OF DOG; ALSO CHARGED WITH ENDANGERMENT FOR STRIKING CANINE IN FRONT OF GIRL

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man has been indicted for Aggravated Cruelty to Animals and related charges for the brutalization of a small dog.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendant was cruel and relentless in his incomprehensible attack on a small, defenseless animal. Surveillance video captured this horror and we will now work hard to obtain justice; we emphasize our continued dedication to protecting vulnerable animals."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, George Reid, 37, of 2414 Belmont Ave., was indicted for Aggravated Cruelty to Animals, Torturing and Injuring Animals and Endangering the Welfare of a Child. He was arraigned today before Bronx Supreme Court Justice George Villegas and bail was set at \$25,000. He is due back on December 20, 2017. If convicted of the top charge, he faces up to two years in prison.

According to the investigation, on August 16, 2017 in his apartment building, the defendant allegedly repeatedly attacked his dog, punching, kicking and slamming the animal to the ground. At one point during the assault, the defendant held the small dog by the neck and punched the canine in front of a young girl. The crime was captured on surveillance video and the defendant was later seen taking out a garbage bag. The body of a small dog was observed in the building's garbage bin later that evening.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Joshua Loigman and Kate Christobek of the Economic Crimes Bureau under the supervision of Richard Kearney, Deputy Chief of Economic Crimes and William Zelenka, Chief of Economic Crimes, under the overall supervision of Stuart Levy, Deputy Chief of the Investigations Division and Jean T. Walsh, Chief of the Investigations Division.

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DA Clark thanked the NYPD Animal Cruelty Investigation Squad, specifically Detectives Kevin Connors and Charles Cadiz, as well as ASPCA veterinarian, Dr. Robert Reisman.

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