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DARCEL D. CLARK
DISTRICT ATTORNEY, BRONX COUNTY

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

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**BRONX MAN INDICTED FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT OF 12-YEAR-OLD GIRL HE
FOLLOWED, DRAGGED INTO ALLEYWAY AT GUNPOINT
Defendant Extradited From Massachusetts; Faces Up To Life In Prison**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man has been indicted on Predatory Sexual Assault and other sexual crimes for attacking a 12-year-old girl at gunpoint.

District Attorney Clark said, "An act of violence against a child is the worst imaginable crime and one of sexual violence is especially heartbreaking. The defendant faces life behind bars, a sentence worthy of the brutal crime he is charged of committing. We will work hard to see that the brave survivor of this horrific attack receives justice."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Malcolm Lugo, 20, of 1771 Monroe Avenue, was indicted for Predatory Sexual Assault against a Child, two counts of first-degree Criminal Sexual Act, Predatory Sexual Assault, first-degree Sexual Abuse, Endangering the Welfare of a Child and fourth-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon. He was arraigned today before Bronx Supreme Court Justice George Villegas. He was remanded and is due back in court on Feb. 13, 2018. If convicted of the top charge, he faces up to life in prison.

According to the investigation, on the morning of August 13, 2017, near the area of Weeks Avenue and East 173rd Street in Concourse Village, the defendant followed a 12-year-old girl who was returning from a local store. The defendant allegedly placed a gun to the child's head and dragged her into a nearby alley, where he sexually assaulted her. Before fleeing the scene, he threatened the victim, stating "I know where your family is" and "I'll kill them all." The District Attorney's Office worked with the Fugitive Task Force Warrant Squad to locate the defendant in Massachusetts.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Samuel Hodge and
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Anthony Perrotto, both of the Child Abuse/ Sex Crimes Bureau, under the supervision of Rachel Ferrari, Chief of the Child Abuse/ Sex Crimes Bureau and under the overall supervision of Joseph Muroff, Chief of the Special Victims Division.

District Attorney Clark thanked NYPD Detectives Christopher Ort and Harris Goldner of the Bronx Special Victims Unit.

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