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BRONX DISTRICT ATTORNEY DARCEL D. CLARK'S STATEMENT ON THE DEATH OF NYS COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE SHEILA ABDUS-SALAAM

"I am heartbroken to hear of the loss of Judge Sheila Abdus-Salaam. My prayers and thoughts are with her family, friends and colleagues during this tragic time.

"The legal community has lost a brilliant mind. Sheila was a great mentor and dear friend. I was honored when she swore me in as District Attorney of the Bronx last year and I will forever be grateful for that memory.

"As the first African-American woman to be appointed to the Court of Appeals, she was a trailblazer and an inspiration to many. I was fortunate to know her and New York State was fortunate to have her as a dedicated public servant. Her legacy will not be forgotten and I have no doubt those whose lives she touched will continue her work."