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FORMER NYCHA EMPLOYEE TO GET 25 YEARS IN PRISON FOR FATALLY BEATING LIVE-IN GIRLFRIEND WITH HAMMER Victim Was Mother of Six Adopted Children

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man has pleaded guilty and will be sentenced to 25 years in prison for beating his girlfriend to death with a hammer in 2015.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendant horrifically bludgeoned to death the woman he had shared a life and children with. He was relentless in his attack, repeatedly striking the victim who bravely tried to fight back. He will now be behind bars for 25 years and we hope the family receives a measure of peace with this sentence."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Darrell Gibbs, 53, of East 135 St., who worked as a plasterer for the NYC Housing Authority, pleaded guilty today to first-degree Manslaughter before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Judith Lieb. He will be sentenced to 25 years followed by 5 years post-release supervision on February 21, 2018.

According to the investigation, on the night of July 9, 2015, in their apartment in the Mitchell Houses in Mott Haven, the defendant repeatedly struck Wanda Martin Stevens, 53, with a hammer following a domestic dispute. During the altercation, he also grabbed the victim by the neck and smashed a broken glass bottle on her head, resulting in her death. The defendant and the victim had lived together for 12 years and had adopted six children.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Nancy Borko, Deputy Bureau Chief of the Homicide Bureau under the supervision of Christine Scaccia, Chief of the Homicide Bureau and the overall supervision of Nicole Keary, Deputy Chief of the Trial Division.

District Attorney Clark thanked her Office's Crime Victim Advocate Adrienne Navarro who supported the victim's family at every court appearance.