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**14-2018**  
**For Immediate Release**  
**February 22, 2018**

## **BRONX PARENTS INDICTED ON ENDANGERMENT CHARGES; LEFT 5-YEAR-OLD SON ALONE IN HOME RIDDLED WITH VERMIN AND FECES**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx couple has been indicted on Endangerment charges for leaving their child alone in their apartment which was infested by rodents and spattered with blood and feces.

District Attorney Clark said, "This was a deplorable situation; a 5-year-old boy and his three siblings were living in such squalor. The parents had a duty to protect their children from these dangerously unhealthy conditions."

District Attorney Clark said the defendants, Charlotte Lewis, 48, and Wilfred Lewis, 59, both of 3054 Kingsbridge Avenue, were indicted on first and second-degree Endangering the Welfare of an Incompetent or Physically Disabled Person and four counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child. The defendants were arraigned today before Bronx Supreme Court Justice George Villegas. Bail was continued at \$15,000 and they are due back in court on May 31, 2018.

According to the investigation, on January 26, 2018, authorities were called to the family's apartment where they found a neglected 5-year-old boy. The child was found with insects on his body and the apartment was infested with dead and live rodents and insects, and walls were stained with blood and feces.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Anthony J. Perrotto 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 Assistant District Attorney Nick Lastella for his assistance in the case.

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