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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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**For Immediate Release**  
**Feb. 22, 2018**

**BRONX MAN INDICTED ON ASSAULT CHARGES FOR BEATING 4-YEAR-OLD  
DAUGHTER WITH ALUMINUM BASEBALL BAT**  
**Child Allegedly Hit During Parental Argument; Suffered Liver Damage**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man has been indicted on first-degree Assault and other charges for repeatedly striking his daughter with a baseball bat and seriously injuring her.

District Attorney Clark said, "Allegations of abuse against a helpless, innocent child are more horrific and disturbing when they are against a family member meant to protect the child. This little girl was left alone with serious injuries until her mother found her. We will work hard to find a measure of justice and safety for both of them."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Noel Morales, 32, of 1145 Morrison Avenue, was indicted on first-degree Assault, three counts of second-degree Assault, third-degree Assault, fourth-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon and Endangering the Welfare of a Child. He was arraigned today before Bronx Supreme Court Justice George Villegas. Bail was continued and he is due back on May 29, 2018.

According to the investigation, on January 14, 2018, inside an apartment shared by Morales, his daughter and the girl's mother, Morales struck his four-year-old daughter three times with a baseball bat following an argument with the girl's mother. The child's mother, who was at work, later found the girl and rushed her to a hospital. The girl suffered severe injuries including contusions to the liver, bruising on her stomach and back and a broken arm.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jill Starishevsky, Senior Trial Assistant in the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, under the supervision of Rachel Ferrari, Chief of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, and the overall supervision of Joseph Muroff, Chief of the Special Victims Division.

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