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**BRONX WOMAN WHO SUFFOCATED 91-YEAR-OLD WOMAN SENTENCED
TO 25 YEARS TO LIFE IN PRISON**
Defendant Convicted by Jury of 2003 Murder of Nellie Hocutt

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx woman has been sentenced to 25 years to life in prison in the torture and killing of a 91-year-old woman during a robbery in her Williamsbridge apartment in 2003.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendant committed a crime that is singularly cruel and vicious. She suffocated a defenseless woman during a robbery that netted her \$120. Nellie Hocutt's family finally has a measure of justice, as they have continued to grieve the loss of their beloved matriarch."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Sparkle Daniel, 33, was sentenced today to 25 years to life in prison by Bronx Supreme Court Justice John Carter. Daniel was convicted by a jury of second-degree Murder on March 6, 2018.

According to the investigation, on January 10, 2003, Daniel and co-defendant Nadine Pantan offered to help Nellie Hocutt bring her groceries into her apartment on Laconia Avenue. Once inside, they rifled Hocutt's purse. Then they tied her to a chair and poured wine, rubbing alcohol and wood alcohol down her throat, put a rag at her mouth and fastened a plastic bag over her head. She was later found asphyxiated.

Daniel was convicted of second-degree murder in 2010, but the conviction was reversed on appeal. At the same trial, Pantan was convicted of murder.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Christine Scaccia, Chief of the Homicide Bureau.

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