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BRONX MAN SENTENCED TO 14 YEARS IN PRISON FOR SHOOTING HIS WIFE IN THEIR BRONX HOME ON CHRISTMAS MORNING Their Two Children Were In The House When He Shot Her Twice

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man was sentenced to 14 years in prison following his conviction for Attempted Murder in the second-degree in the shooting of his wife on Christmas Day in 2015.

District Attorney Clark said, "This horrid domestic violence case shows that death threats must be taken seriously. Fortunately, the victim survived being shot by her husband while their two children were in the home. He will now serve 14 years in prison and obey an order of protection."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Rafael Herrera, 39, of 967 East 220 Street, was sentenced today by Bronx Supreme Court Justice Judith Lieb to 14 years in prison and five years post-release supervision. The defendant pleaded guilty on June 13, 2018 to Attempted Murder in the second-degree.

According to the investigation, on the morning of December 25, 2015, Herrera shot his wife, Yadira Saavedra Perea, then 27 years old, in the neck and when she fell to the floor he shot her in the arm. The two children the defendant and the victim share were in the residence during the incident. The victim's sister-in-law and her two children were also in the two-family house during the shooting.

According to the investigation, the defendant had threatened to kill the victim a month before the incident, when she told him she wanted a divorce. A week before the shooting, the defendant sent a picture of a gun to her. The victim did not think to take the threats seriously. The defendant shot the victim on Christmas Day after she mentioned the divorce again. The victim spent a month in the hospital. The bullet that entered her neck is still in her body.

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The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kathryn Falasca, Supervisor in the Domestic Violence Bureau, under the supervision of Adrienne Giunta, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau, and the overall supervision of Joseph Muroff, Chief of the Special Victims Division.