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**12 ALLEGED TRINITARIOS INDICTED IN STABBING MURDER OF
15-YEAR-OLD BOY IN INTRA-GANG CONFLICT
Defendants Allegedly Plotted to Attack an Upstart Set;
Encountered Random Victim, Chased Him Into Bodega,
Dragged Him Out and Attacked Him With Knives And Machete**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark and New York City Police Commissioner James P. O'Neill today announced that 12 men have been indicted in the fatal stabbing of 15-year-old Lesandro Guzman-Feliz on June 20, 2018 in the Bronx.

District Attorney Clark said, "This crime was nothing less than ferocious. The defendants were out for violence. They came upon the 15-year-old boy, Lesandro "Junior" Guzman-Feliz, chased him into a store, dragged him out and stabbed and slashed him."

"I commend the Homicide Bureau and the Narcotics & Gangs Investigation Bureau prosecutors for their diligence in this case, along with the NYPD detectives from Bronx Homicide and the 48th Precinct. This indictment is an early step in the criminal justice process, so I ask the community to be patient as the case takes its course. The investigation is ongoing."

"We will not tolerate violence by gangs on our streets. I urge the community to continue to be our partner to save our youth."

Commissioner O'Neill said, "The notion that anyone - or any group of people - somehow thinks that committing such an act in New York City is OK, is abhorrent at its core. Criminal groups continue to threaten public safety and quality of life in some New York City neighborhoods. The NYPD will remain vigilant in the face of this threat, but our mission is dependent on a major buy-in from the public we serve. And that's why - through Neighborhood Policing - we're making huge efforts to build trust and to strengthen relationships in every community. Because in every single case, we need all New Yorkers' help - just like we saw with the good people of the Bronx, who helped bring about justice for Junior."



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District Attorney Clark said five of the defendants--Jonaiki Martinez Estrella, Antonio Rodriguez Hernandez Santiago, Jose Muniz, Manuel Rivera, and Elvin Garcia--have been indicted on first-degree Murder, under Penal Law 125.27 (1) (a) (x), intentional murder which included torture.

All twelve defendants have been charged with second-degree Murder, first-degree Manslaughter, second-degree Conspiracy, first-degree Gang Assault, second-degree Gang Assault, and fourth-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon. They were arraigned today before Bronx Supreme Court Justice George Villegas. Remand was continued. If convicted of the top charge of first-degree Murder, defendants can face up to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

According to the investigation, on June 20, 2018, the defendants, who allegedly are part of the "Los Sures" set of the Trinitarios gang, gathered at the Boston Road home of Diego Suero, alleged leader of Los Sures, to plan to commit violence against another set of the Trinitarios called "Sunset." The defendants then travelled in four cars, and came upon the victim, who fled from them, running approximately four blocks to a bodega in Belmont, where he tried to hide.

According to the investigation the defendants are then seen in surveillance footage from the store cameras entering the bodega, then dragging the victim out of the store as he fought for his life. When the victim was forcefully taken from the store, five defendants repeatedly stabbed and slashed him with knives and a machete in the neck and body. The victim ran from the bodega to St. Barnabas Hospital and collapsed near the entrance.

According to the investigation, after the stabbing, the defendants fled and went back to Diego Suero's home to hide weapons and provide aid to Elvin Garcia, whose hand was cut in the midst of the multiple stabbings the victim received. Jonaiki Martinez Estrella, Antonio Rodriguez Hernandez Santiago, Jose Muniz, Manuel Rivera, Danel Fernandez and Jose Tavaréz then fled and were ultimately arrested in Paterson, New Jersey on June 24, 2018. Five other defendants were arrested in the Bronx, and one was detained on July 9, 2018 in Connecticut, where he had fled.

The investigation is ongoing.



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The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Morgan Dolan and Masateru Marubashi of the Homicide Bureau under the supervision of Christine Scaccia, Chief of the Homicide Bureau, and the overall supervision of Theresa Gottlieb, Chief of the Trial Division, and Terry Gensler, Deputy Chief of the Narcotics & Gangs Investigation Bureau and Gary Heavner, Chief of the Narcotics and Gangs Investigation Bureau, under the overall supervision of Jean T. Walsh, Chief of the Investigations Division.

District Attorney Clark thanked NYPD Detectives Frank Orlando of the Bronx Homicide Task Force and Joseph Flores of the 48th Precinct Squad for their work on the investigation. District Attorney Clark thanked her Detective Investigators for their assistance.

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

Defendants

Kevin Alvarez, 19, Bronx, N.Y.

Elvin Garcia, 23, Manhattan, N.Y.

Antonio Rodriguez Hernández Santiago, 24, Bronx, N.Y.

Manuel Rivera, 18, Bronx, N.Y.

Danel Fernandez, 21, Bronx N.Y.

Jonaiki Martinez Estrella, 24, Freeport, Long Island, N.Y.

Jose Muniz, 22, Bronx, N.Y.

Jose Tavarez, 21, Bronx, N.Y.

Danilo Payamps Pacheco, 21, Bronx, N.Y.

Diego Suero, 29, Bronx, N.Y.

Gabriel Ramirez Concepcion, 26, Bronx, N.Y.

Luis Cabrera Santos, AKA Luis Rodriguez, 25, Bronx, N.Y.