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**104-2019**  
**For Immediate Release**  
**December 10, 2019**

**BRONX MAN SENTENCED TO 25 YEARS IN PRISON  
FOR FATALLY STABBING FRIEND  
Jury Found Defendant Guilty of First-Degree Manslaughter**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man has been sentenced to 25 years in prison for fatally stabbing his friend in 2016.

District Attorney Clark said, “The defendant killed his friend, a father of one, by stabbing him on a crowded street. I hope the sentence imposed today brings some peace to the victim’s family, especially the victim’s mother who took the stand during the trial and recounted the most difficult experience a mom can go through: hearing of her son’s death and identifying his body.”

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Eric Ortiz, 57, of 2295 Grand Concourse, was sentenced today to 25 years in prison and five years post-release supervision by Bronx Supreme Court Justice Michael Gross. A jury found the defendant guilty of first-degree Manslaughter on March 22, 2019.

According to the investigation, at about 8 p.m. on March 1, 2016, in front of a cellular phone store the defendant worked in located at 332 East Fordham Road, the defendant was fighting with an individual. The victim, Christopher Cabrera, 27, who was friends with Ortiz, attempted to calm the defendant down. Ortiz became angry with the victim and stabbed him with a sharp object in the liver. Cabrera was taken to St. Barnabas Hospital and was pronounced dead about two hours after the incident.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Timothy Collins of the Homicide Bureau and Assistant District Attorney Eric Valentin, Supervisor in Trial Bureau 30, under the supervision of Christine Scaccia, Chief of the Homicide Bureau, and under the overall supervision of James Brennan, Deputy Chief of the Trial Division, and Theresa Gottlieb, Chief of the Trial Division. District Attorney Clark thanked Assistant District Attorney Paul Rosenfeld of the Homicide Bureau and NYPD Detective Michael Fassert of the 46<sup>th</sup> Precinct for their assistance in the investigation.