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BRONX MAN SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS IN PRISON FOR STABBING WIFE
Amber Alert Was Activated After Defendant Fled Scene with 3-Year-Old Daughter

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man has been sentenced to ten years in prison after pleading guilty to Attempted Murder and additional charges for stabbing his wife multiple times.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendant viciously stabbed his wife, cutting her throat approximately 12 times, and then ran off with their 3-year-old daughter. Thanks to quick action from first responders and doctors, the victim miraculously survived."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Diomedes Valenzuela, 50, of 2974 Perry Avenue, was sentenced today by Bronx Supreme Court Justice Ethan Greenberg to 10 years in prison and five years post-release supervision for Attempted Murder and for first-degree Assault, seven years in prison and five years post-release supervision for each of two second-degree Assault charges, and one year for each charge of Endangering the Welfare of a Child, third-degree Assault and Custodial Interference. All sentences are to be served concurrently. The judge also issued a full final order of protection.

According to the investigation, in the afternoon of December 1, 2015 at 2974 Perry Avenue, the defendant stabbed his then-wife, Yudeljy Cruz, 31, in the neck and arms. Valenzuela, who is a former New Jersey cop and MTA employee, then fled the scene with their daughter. Authorities issued an amber alert and the defendant and the child were found about two hours later in New Jersey.

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.

District Attorney Clark thanked Amy Litwin, Counsel to the Special Victims Division, for



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her assistance in the case. District Attorney Clark also thanked NYPD Detective Nigel Peart of the 52nd Precinct Squad and Detective Nicholas Ciuffi, of Bronx Homicide, for their assistance in the investigation. District Attorney Clark also thanked police officers and other first responders for their quick actions in helping to save the victim's life.

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