

DARCEL D. CLARK DISTRICT ATTORNEY, BRONX COUNTY **198 EAST 161ST STREET BRONX, N.Y. 10451** (718) 590-2234

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FOUR PEOPLE INDICTED IN 3-BOROUGH CARJACKING SPREE; ONE DEFENDANT ALSO INDICTED FOR PINNING NYPD OFFICER BETWEEN TWO CARS OUTSIDE BRONX COURTHOUSE Officer Shot And Wounded 17-Year-Old Driver

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that four people—including two 17-year-old girls—have been indicted on charges related to carjackings in three boroughs that left victims injured; one of the four was also indicted for assaulting an NYPD Police Officer using a stolen vehicle, which led to the officer shooting that defendant in a chaotic scene on a busy street.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendants allegedly went on a robbery and carjacking spree in Brooklyn, Manhattan and the Bronx. In two of the six incidents, the defendants allegedly assaulted the car owners. In another, they allegedly tried to run over the victim. They drove a stolen car to a Bronx courthouse, where one defendant allegedly pinned an NYPD Police Officer with the vehicle when the officer approached. Such violent, reckless behavior will not be tolerated in the Bronx or anywhere in this city."

District Attorney Clark said two of the defendants, Rusheka Willis, 17, and Veantay Henry, 17, both of the Bronx, were arraigned today on an indictment charging 64 counts, including Attempted Murder, Robbery, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property, Grand Larceny, Stolen Vehicles, Assault, Criminal Negligence, Reckless Endangerment, Reckless Driving, and Conspiracy, before Bronx Supreme Court Justice George Villegas. The two other defendants, Emanuel Thomas, 22, and Mariama Kande, 18, were arraigned on March 12, 2019. Bail was set at \$10,000 for Henry, \$10,000 for Willis, \$25,000 for Thomas and \$50,000 for Kande. The defendants are due back in court on June 12, 2019.

According to the investigation, on or about January 20, 2019, in the Bronx, Henry allegedly stole a 2013 Toyota Corolla, luring the victim out of her car by claiming that one of the tires was flat, then jumping into the driver's seat. As the victim fled, Henry allegedly attempted to run her over, driving the stolen car onto the sidewalk.

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On February 1, 2019, Henry allegedly stole a 2003 Hyundai Santa Fe from a man in the Bronx.

On February 3, 2019, Willis, Henry, Thomas and Kande abandoned the stolen Santa Fe they were traveling in. They then carjacked a 2006 Honda Accord from a man in the Bronx, physically assaulting the victim and threatening him with a knife. The defendants also stole the victim's cell phone and credit card.

The defendants then drove the Accord to Manhattan, where the defendants physically assaulted a woman on a sidewalk, and stole an iPhone from her.

They then went to Brooklyn, where they robbed one woman of her handbag, then crashed the Accord. On foot, they stole a handbag from a parked car, and then carjacked a woman, taking her 2011 Hyundai Sonata and driving it back to the Bronx.

According to the investigation, on the morning of February 4, 2019 at the intersection of East 162nd Street and Sheridan Avenue, Henry double-parked the stolen Sonata in front of Family Court. Henry and Willis went inside Family Court, and then left the courthouse after approximately 30 minutes.

While the defendants were inside the courthouse, Anti-Crime Officers on routine patrol received an alert from their License Plate Readers that the Sonata outside Family Court had been reported stolen in Brooklyn. The Officers then asked for a uniform patrol so they could box the vehicle in and check the car. Police Officers of the 44th Precinct responded and waited until the defendants entered the vehicle. The Officers could not box in the car because a cab was in the way, so Police Officer Vanessa Rodriguez approached the vehicle on foot. Henry, who was in the driver's seat, put the car in reverse and pinned Rodriguez between the stolen vehicle and a parked Toyota Camry. Rodriguez fired three shots into the stolen car, striking Henry. The Officer was taken to the hospital for treatment.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney John Oxenreiter of the Public Integrity Bureau, and Ilya Kharkover, Deputy Chief of the Public Integrity Bureau, under the supervision of Omer Wiczyk, Chief of the Public Integrity Bureau, and the overall supervision of Tarek Rahman, Deputy Chief of the Investigations Division, and Jean T. Walsh, Chief of the Investigations Division. District Attorney Clark thanked Assistant District Attorneys Jade



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Newby and Daniela Parra of Trial Bureau 40 for their work in the case.

District Attorney Clark also thanked NYPD Detective Franco Johnson of the Bronx Robbery Squad for his work in the investigation. District Attorney Clark thanked Detectives of the 44th, 47th, and 41st Precincts in the Bronx, of the 61st precinct in Brooklyn, and of the 13th Precinct in Manhattan, as well as Detective Devin Long of the Force Investigations Division, and Detective Matthew Steiner of the Crime Scene Unit.

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

Defendants:

Veantay Henry, 17, 822 East 230th St., Bronx Rusheka Willis, 17, 1141 East 229th St., Bronx Emanuel Thomas, 22, 1717 Garfield St., Bronx Mariama Kande, 18, 699 East 139th St., Bronx

Charges:

Attempted Murder In The Second Degree Attempted Assault In The First Degree Robbery In The Second Degree Robbery In The Third Degree Robbery In The Third Degree Criminal Possession Of Stolen Property In The Third Degree Criminal Possession Of Stolen Property In The Third Degree Criminal Possession Of Stolen Property In The Third Degree Criminal Possession Of Stolen Property In The Third Degree Criminal Possession Of Stolen Property In The Third Degree Grand Larceny In The Third Degree Grand Larceny In The Third Degree Grand Larceny In The Third Degree



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Grand Larceny In The Third Degree

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Criminal Possession Of Stolen Property In The Fourth Degree Criminal Possession Of Stolen Property In The Fourth Degree Criminal Possession Of Stolen Property In The Fourth Degree Criminal Possession Of Stolen Property In The Fourth Degree Criminal Possession Of Stolen Property In The Fourth Degree Criminal Possession Of Stolen Property In The Fourth Degree Criminal Possession Of Stolen Property In The Fourth Degree Criminal Possession Of Stolen Property In The Fourth Degree Grand Larceny In The Fourth Degree **Stolen Vehicles Stolen Vehicles Stolen Vehicles Stolen Vehicles Reckless Endangerment In The Second Degree** Reckless Endangerment In The Second Degree Robbery In The First Degree Robbery In The Second Degree Assault In The Second Degree 4



Grand Larceny In The Fourth Degree

Conspiracy In The Fourth Degree Conspiracy In The Fifth Degree

Assault In The Third Degree Assault In The Second Degree Assault In The Second Degree Assault In The Third Degree

Reckless Driving

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