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**DARCEL D. CLARK**DISTRICT ATTORNEY, BRONX COUNTY

**198 EAST 161ST STREET BRONX, N.Y. 10451**(718) 590-2234

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## BRONX MAN INDICTED IN STRANGLING DEATH OF MOTHER-IN-LAW Victim Was Killed While Her Grandchildren Were In Her Apartment

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man has been indicted on Murder and Manslaughter charges in the strangulation of his mother-in-law.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendant allegedly killed the grandmother of his children in her home while the children were in the apartment. He ignored the Order of Protection placed against him at the time, as well as the trauma that two of the young children would experience after witnessing parts of the incident."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Angel Montanez, 39, of 1269 Sheridan Avenue, was arraigned today on second-degree Murder, first-degree Manslaughter, first and second-degree Strangulation, three counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child and second-degree Criminal Contempt before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Lester Adler. Remand was continued and the defendant is due back in court on October 16, 2019.

According to the investigation, on July 3, 2019, the defendant allegedly went to the apartment of the victim, Lidia Herrera, 65, while having an Order of Protection issued against him regarding his 4-year-old daughter, 6-year-old son and 10-year-old son. Montanez started arguing with Herrera and punched her in the head. In the victim's bedroom, the defendant allegedly strangled Herrera by wrapping an HDMI cord around her neck. Two of the children witnessed parts of the incident. The victim was pronounced dead at the scene.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Felicity Lung, Homicide Counsel in the Homicide Bureau, under the supervision of Christine Scaccia, Chief of the Homicide Bureau, and the overall supervision of James Brennan, Deputy Chief of the Trial Division, and Theresa Gottlieb, Chief of the Trial Division. District Attorney Clark thanked NYPD Detective Justin Prieto of the 44<sup>th</sup> Precinct and NYPD Detective Sasha Brugal of the Bronx Homicide Squad for their assistance in the investigation.

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