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FORMER NYPD POLICE OFFICER INDICTED FOR MANSLAUGHTER IN FATAL SHOOTING OF FRIEND

Victim Died After Defendant's Off-Duty Gun Was Discharged; Defendant Did Not Perform Life-Saving Measures

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a former NYPD Police Officer has been indicted in the fatal shooting of his next-door neighbor in the neighbor's apartment in the Bronx. The defendant initially said that the victim was playing with the firearm and accidentally shot himself, but an autopsy showed the gunshot was not self-inflicted.

District Attorney Clark said, "The victim, who was friends with the defendant, was recklessly killed by a single gunshot near the neck. The defendant was an NYPD Police Officer for approximately one year at the time of the incident, which occurred when he was off-duty. He allegedly did not seek immediate help and a young man died."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Martinson Afari Yeboah, 28, who was assigned to Housing Police Service Area 7 in the Bronx, was arraigned today on second-degree Manslaughter and Criminally Negligent Homicide before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Margaret Clancy. Bail was set at \$100,000 bond/\$25,000 cash and \$75,000 partially secured bond. The defendant must also surrender his passport. He is due back in court on January 15, 2019.

According to the investigation, at about 5:25 a.m. on April 21, 2019, Yeboah, who was off-duty, was in the apartment of Frederick Afoakwah, 21, on West Mosholu Parkway South. The defendant and the victim were playing soccer video games when Yeboah's off-duty firearm, a 9-mm semi-automatic pistol, discharged, striking Afoakwah. After the gunshot rang out, the victim's father and cousin came out of their bedroom and saw the victim dying, and Yeboah allegedly told them there was an accident.

According to the investigation, Yeboah did not call 911 until the victim's father urged him to do so. The defendant went to his apartment, left his firearm there and changed his shoes. Instead of going back to the victim's apartment to perform life-saving procedures, the defendant went to



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the building's lobby to wait for first responders. The victim was taken to St. Barnabas Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

The defendant's employment with the NYPD has been terminated since the incident.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Joseph Marciano 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 Attorney Brian Connor and Trial Preparation Assistant Alexandra Ragusa, both of the Public Integrity Bureau, for their assistance in the investigation. District Attorney Clark also thanked NYPD Sergeant Emanuel Vizzotti and NYPD Detective Clayton Barnett of the Force Investigation Division for their assistance.

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