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BRONX PASTOR INDICTED FOR MURDER; RAN OVER ESTRANGED WIFE WITH CAR AND ATTACKED HER WITH MACHETE Killing Happened in Front of Victim's Two Grandchildren

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Yonkers man has been indicted for Murder, Manslaughter and other charges for running over his estranged wife with a vehicle and stabbing her with a machete in front her two grandchildren on a Bronx street.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendant cruelly attacked his wife, from whom he had been estranged for approximately a month, in front her two young grandchildren. The defendant allegedly struck her with his own vehicle, then ran her over with her car, and stabbed her with a machete. We will pursue justice for the victim, as well as her family members who have been deeply traumatized by the terrible attack."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Victor Mateo, 63, of 4 Eastman Place, Yonkers, N.Y., a pastor at the Christian Congregation The Redeemer Church in the Bronx, was arraigned today on second-degree Murder and first-degree Manslaughter, three counts of fourth-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon and two counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Margaret Clancy. The defendant was remanded and is due back in court on January 22, 2020.

According to the investigation, at about 6:45 a.m. on October 3, 2019, the defendant parked his vehicle near the home of Noelia Mateo, 58, on Ellsworth Avenue in Throgs Neck. When the victim came out to drive her grandchildren to school the defendant allegedly struck her with his vehicle. The victim hid beneath her car, and the defendant got into her car and allegedly ran her over with it. Then he allegedly hacked her with a machete. The victim's 11-year-old grandson and 9-year-old granddaughter witnessed the attack.

The defendant fled the scene in the victim's vehicle. He was arrested on October 10, 2019 in Hazelton, Pennsylvania and was extradited to the Bronx.

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The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney William Browne of 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 Assistant District Attorneys Allison Kline, Megan Leo, Jean Paul Rivera, Heather McMahon and Bryson Gillard of the Domestic Violence Bureau, and Danielle Pascale, Deputy Bureau Chief of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, for their assistance in the case. District Attorney Clark also thanked NYPD Detective Francis Orlando from Bronx Homicide and NYPD Detectives Kristopher Persaud and Erica Price of the 45th Precinct for their assistance in the investigation.

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

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