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## ALLEGED GANG MEMBER INDICTED ON FIRST-DEGREE RAPE AND OTHER CHARGES IN ATTACK ON 70-YEAR-OLD WOMAN Defendant, a Parolee, Raped Victim at Gunpoint

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that an alleged Crips gang member has been indicted for Predatory Sexual Assault, first-degree Rape and additional charges for the gunpoint rape of a 70-year-old woman in her Bronx apartment building.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendant, a parolee, is charged with allegedly raping a defenseless, 70-year-old woman in her Bronx home. His actions were unspeakable and depraved. We will seek justice for the victim, who has suffered horrific trauma."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Reginald Bellot, 28, of 666 East 181<sup>st</sup> Street, was arraigned today on three counts of Predatory Sexual Assault, two counts of first-degree Rape, first-degree Criminal Sexual Act, two counts of first-degree Sexual Abuse, two counts of third-degree Rape, third-degree Criminal Sexual Act, first-degree Burglary, two counts of second-degree Burglary, and two counts of fourth-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Laurence Busching. Remand was continued and he is due back in court on December 7, 2021.

According to the investigation, at approximately 2:30 a.m. on July 27, 2021, the defendant followed the victim and threatened her with a gun to gain entrance into her Bronx apartment building. Inside a stairwell, Bellot allegedly raped the victim, then threatened her with a gun to get into her apartment, where he raped her again and forced her to perform sexual acts on him.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Siobhan McHale of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, under the supervision of Rachel Ferrari, Chief of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, and under the overall supervision of Joseph Muroff, Chief of the Special Victims Division.

District Attorney Clark thanked Assistant District Attorney Rachel Steinhardt of the Child



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Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, BXDA Detective Investigator Jairo Jativa, BXDA Detective Investigator Christopher Scerbak, and Jeanette Gambaro, Senior Advocate in the Crime Victims Assistance Unit, for their assistance. District Attorney Clark also thanked the Bronx Special Victims Squad, specifically NYPD Detectives Crystal Soto and Carolyn Tully.

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

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