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**BRONX MAN SENTENCED TO 12 YEARS IN PRISON
FOR KILLING HIS SIX-WEEK-OLD INFANT
Defendant Pleaded Guilty to First-Degree Manslaughter**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced a Bronx man has been sentenced to 12 years in prison after pleading guilty to first-degree Manslaughter for fatally throwing his six-week-old son to the ground, killing him.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendant's newborn was crying and instead of comforting him, the defendant threw him to the ground, ending his life. The defendant's violence is unconscionable and unfitting of any parent."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Christian Rodriguez, 27, last of 530 East 137th Street, was sentenced today to 12 years in prison and five years of post-release supervision by Bronx Supreme Court Justice Ralph Fabrizio. The defendant pleaded guilty to first-degree Manslaughter on February 16, 2022.

According to the investigation, on the evening of March 18, 2019 the defendant was home and taking care of his six-week-old child, Aiden Rodriguez. The defendant initially told investigators he accidentally hit the child's head on a bedroom doorframe while holding him and trying to maneuver the stroller into the bedroom. Rodriguez then admitted to investigators that he was angry and threw the baby to the ground. The child was taken to Lincoln Hospital then transferred to Columbia Presbyterian Hospital where he was pronounced dead several hours later. Medical investigators found that the baby died from abusive head trauma.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Astrid Borgstedt, Trial Counsel in the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, under the supervision of Danielle Pascale, Deputy Bureau Chief of Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, and Rachel Ferrari, Chief of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, and under the overall supervision of Adrienne Giunta, Deputy Chief of the Special Victims Division, and Joseph Muroff, Chief of the Special Victims Division. District Attorney Clark thanked Case Discovery Analyst Yolanda Siders-Lewis for her assistance in the case.

District Attorney Clark also thanked NYPD Detective Jose Romero from the 40th Precinct and former NYPD Detective John Ferretti of Bronx Homicide for their assistance in the investigation.