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33-2022
For Immediate Release
April 20, 2022

RIKERS ISLAND INMATE INDICTED FOR ASSAULTING NYC DOC OFFICER Victim Requires Surgery For Injuries Suffered After She Was Thrown to Floor

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that an inmate has been indicted on Assault charges after attacking a New York City Department of Correction Officer on Rikers Island, leading to injuries requiring surgery and physical therapy.

District Attorney Clark said, “The defendant became irate after the Officer told him to stop jumping on another inmate’s bed. The defendant allegedly charged the Officer, knocking her to the ground, leading to multiple injuries and ongoing pain.”

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Pedro Hernandez, 40, of Brooklyn, NY, was arraigned today on two counts of second-degree Assault, third degree Assault and second-degree Obstructing Governmental Administration before Bronx Supreme Court Justice George Villegas. The People requested \$7,500 cash/15,000 bond/15,000 partially secured bond at 10 percent. The court denied the request and Hernandez is continued held on \$20,000 cash/ \$40,000 bond on his underlying case. The defendant is due back in court on July 14, 2022.

According to the investigation, on July 28, 2021, the defendant allegedly started to jump on another inmate’s bed and the Officer told the defendant to stop. She called for assistance and removed her pepper spray canister. The defendant then allegedly charged her and threw her to the ground. She suffered substantial pain to her head, knees, and hips. She is currently unable to return to full-duty work and is expected to undergo hip surgery.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Meredith Masciotti of the Rikers Island Prosecution Bureau, under the supervision of Francis Alberts, Chief of the Rikers Island Prosecution Bureau, and under the overall supervision of Denise Kodjo, Deputy Chief of the Investigations Division, and Wanda Perez-Maldonado, Chief of the Investigations Division.

District Attorney Clark thanked Community Coordinator Lourdes Galindez and Trial
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Preparation Assistant Roderick Kelly, both of the Rikers Island Prosecution Bureau, for their assistance.

District Attorney Clark also thanked NYC Department of Correction Investigators Walter Holmes, Lakeisha White and Juan Rivera for their assistance in the case.

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