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**42-2022**

**For Immediate Release**

**May 5, 2022**

**BRONX BROTHERS INDICTED FOR FORDHAM HEIGHTS SHOOTING  
THAT LEFT INNOCENT BYSTANDER DEAD  
Defendants Charged with Murder**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that two Bronx men have been indicted on Murder and Manslaughter charges in connection to a shooting in Fordham Heights that left a 61-year-old bystander dead.

District Attorney Clark said, “These defendants allegedly pulled out guns and one of them fired it at three men during an argument on the street. This callous disregard for passersby caused the death of 61-year-old mother and grandmother Juana Esperanza Soriano De Perdomo. This is another senseless shooting causing death and the devastation of a family.”

District Attorney Clark said the defendants, Donald Johnson, 20, and Rakell Hampton, 34, both of 2403 Creston Avenue, were arraigned on second-degree Murder, first-degree Manslaughter, two counts of second-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon, Criminal Possession of a Firearm and first-degree Reckless Endangerment. Johnson was arraigned May 4, 2022 before Bronx Supreme Court Justice George Villegas and Hampton was arraigned on May 2, 2022, also before Judge Villegas. The defendants were remanded and are due back in court on June 17, 2022.

According to the investigation, on April 4, 2022 at approximately 7:05 p.m. in front of 164 East 188<sup>th</sup> Street, the defendants allegedly got into an argument with three men and pulled out firearms. Johnson allegedly fired multiple shots in the direction of the men. Juana Esperanza Soriano De Perdomo, 61, was caught in the crossfire. The victim was struck once in the upper left back, piercing her lung and heart. She was pronounced dead at the St. Barnabas Hospital. The defendants fled the scene and were arrested on April 4, 2022.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Orville Reynolds, Counsel in the Homicide Bureau, under the supervision of Christine Scaccia, Chief of the Homicide Bureau, and under the overall supervision of James Brennan, Deputy Chief of the Trial Division, and

**(MORE)**



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Theresa Gottlieb, Chief of the Trial Division.

District Attorney Clark thanked Kimberly Cameron, Team Leader/Supervisor in the Homicide Bureau and Trial Preparation Assistant Jonathan Romero of the Homicide Bureau.

District Attorney Clark also thanked Detective Adam Acosta of the 46<sup>th</sup> Precinct and Detective Robert Cintron of the Bronx Homicide Squad for their assistance in the investigation.

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

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