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BRONX TEENS INDICTED FOR MURDER OF 11-YEAR-OLD KYHARA TAY AND ATTEMPTED MURDER OF 13-YEAR-OLD BOY IN DAYLIGHT SHOOTING

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that two Bronx teens have been indicted for the murder of innocent bystander 11-year-old Kyhara Tay and attempted murder of their 13-year-old intended target during a shooting on Westchester Avenue last month.

District Attorney Clark said, "This case is a nothing less than a catastrophe of our young people. A beautiful little girl Kyhara, standing outside a nail salon in the afternoon, allegedly killed by a 15-year-old shooter, as he was driven on a scooter by an 18-year-old, and they were aiming for a 13-year-old boy. These ages make you weep. As I keep saying, we are losing a generation in the Bronx and we must act now to save our young people."

District Attorney Clark said the defendants, Matthew Godwin, 15, and Omar Bojang, 18, were arraigned today before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Naita Semaj-Williams on charges of second-degree Murder, first-degree Manslaughter, Attempted Murder, and Attempted Assault in the first degree. Godwin was also charged with two counts of second-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon. Remand was continued and they are due back in court on August 17, 2022.

According to the investigation, at 4:48 p.m. on May 16, 2022, in front of 995B Westchester Avenue, the defendants were riding on a motorized scooter driven by Bojang, with Godwin on the back, and Godwin allegedly fired multiple shots at a 13-year-old boy on the corner. One of the bullets struck Kyhara Tay, 11, in the stomach, causing her death.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney John Miras, Homicide Counsel, 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 Theresa Gottlieb, chief of the Trial Division. District Attorney Clark thanked NYPD Detective Naser Dzaferovic of the 41st Precinct Squad and NYPD Detective Robert Cintron of Bronx Homicide for their work on the investigation.

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