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NJ MAN SENTENCED FOR VICIOUS MACHETE ATTACK ON GIRLFRIEND **Victim Required Facial and Hand Reconstructive Surgeries**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a New Jersey man has been sentenced to 12 years in prison and five years of post-release supervision after pleading guilty to striking his girlfriend across the face, hand, and neck with a machete.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendant hacked at the 20-year-old woman with a machete in an attempt to kill her. He inflicted life-altering injuries requiring reconstructive surgeries. Despite physical and emotional trauma, this young woman bravely worked with our Office to bring the defendant to justice."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Hector de la Cruz, 29, was sentenced today by Bronx Supreme Court Justice Marsha Michael to 12 years in prison and five years of post-release supervision after pleading guilty to second-degree Attempted Murder on July 26, 2022.

According to the investigation, at approximately 9:00 p.m. on February 21, 2020 inside the lobby of 2685 Grand Concourse, the defendant approached Lisbeth Acosta-Ramirez, 20, with a machete and attempted to cause her death by striking her on the right side of her face, her right hand, and the back of her neck, causing deep bleeding lacerations. Acosta-Ramirez was taken to St. Barnabas Hospital and underwent reconstructive and life-saving surgery.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Simon Folkard, Deputy Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau, under the supervision of Agata DiGiovanni, Chief of the Domestic Violence 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 52nd Precinct Officers who responded, particularly Police Officer Anthony Laquidara and Police Officer Rolando DeLeon, for their assistance.

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