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**10-2023**  
**For Immediate Release**  
**March 1, 2023**

**BRONX WOMAN INDICTED FOR STABBING HER 7-YEAR-OLD  
GRANDDAUGHTER**  
**Victim Is in a Medically Induced Coma**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx woman has been indicted for Attempted Murder and other related charges for stabbing her granddaughter in the neck and body. The 7-year-old girl is in a medically induced coma after suffering significant blood loss and brain bleeding.

District Attorney Clark said, "This brave young girl is fighting for her life after her own grandmother allegedly attacked her as she slept, and with her 4-year-old sister present. We are hoping for a speedy recovery and will do everything we can to make sure these girls get the support they will need to deal with the trauma."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Maritza Yauger, 65, of Clinton Avenue in the Morrisania section of the Bronx, was arraigned today on Attempted Murder in the second degree, two counts of first-degree Assault, and Endangering the Welfare of a Child before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Naita Semaj-Williams. The defendant was remanded and is due back in court on April 10, 2023.

According to the investigation, on February 21, 2023, at approximately 8:00 a.m. in the defendant's apartment, the victim's uncle was awakened by the victim's sister screaming. He then observed the 7-year-old girl covered in blood and called police. The victim had stab wounds to her neck, throat and body, as well as wounds to her head and a skull fracture. She also had bleeding on her brain. The victim is currently in a medically induced coma.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Siobhan McHale and Assistant District Attorney Rachael Baughman, under the supervision of Johanna Hernandez, Deputy Chief of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, Mimi Mairs, Chief of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, and under the overall supervision of Adrienne Giunta, Deputy Chief of Special Victims Division and Joseph Muroff, Chief of Special Victims Division.

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District Attorney Clark thanked Assistant District Attorney Jaime Breslin, Trial Preparation Assistants Simone Chin, and Elaina Clarke of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, as well as Crime Victim Advocate Melissa Palacios, Child Life Specialist Gina Zarate, and Administrative Supervisor Gloria Ward of the Crime Victims Assistance Bureau.

District Attorney Clark also thanked BXDA Video Technicians Andy Victor and Daniel Valls along with BXDA Interpreter Kiran Chand for their assistance in this case.

District Attorney Clark thanked NYPD Detectives Frankie Soler of Bronx Homicide and Johnathon Concepcion of the Child Abuse Squad as well as Detective Sandy Nunez of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Precinct. Further thanks to NYPD Officers Lewis Blanco and Eliezel Pena Diaz, of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Precinct for their work on the case.

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

**##**