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**JOSE GONZALEZ FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER IN 2017 DEATH OF
FDNY EMT YADIRA ARROYO**
Jury Convicted Defendant of First-Degree Murder;
He Ran Victim Over with Her Ambulance

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that Jose Gonzalez has been found guilty by a jury of the murder of FDNY Emergency Medical Technician Yadira Arroyo, who he ran over with her ambulance nearly six years ago.

District Attorney Clark said, “Jose Gonzalez was convicted today of first-degree Murder in the horrendous death of Yadira Arroyo, a mother of five and 14-year veteran EMT, on March 16, 2017. The road to justice for Yadi was tortuous; this case was delayed because of numerous hearings regarding the defendant’s fitness to stand trial, but her family and FDNY colleagues were patient and steadfast from the beginning until today’s verdict. I thank the witnesses, who saw Yadi in her final moments, for their testimonies during the trial. Yadi lives on in the legacy of her children, and in the countless New Yorkers she assisted in their time of need.”

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Jose Gonzalez, 31, last of 2388 Creston Avenue, was found guilty today of first-degree Murder. The verdict was reached after a nearly one-month-long jury trial before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Martin Marcus. The defendant is scheduled to be sentenced on April 5, 2023. The trial against Gonzalez was delayed after multiple court hearings on the defendant’s mental fitness to stand trial. He was deemed unfit in May 2022 and was sent to a psychiatric facility and was then deemed fit to stand trial in September 2022.

According to the investigation, on the evening of March 16, 2017 in the vicinity of Watson Avenue and White Plains Road, the defendant grabbed on to the back of the victim’s ambulance and rode on it, then jumped off and stole a backpack from a young man. The robbery victim flagged down EMT Yadira Arroyo’s ambulance and she got out of the vehicle and spoke briefly to Gonzalez. The defendant then jumped into the driver’s seat of the ambulance, and Arroyo and her partner, who was in the passenger seat, told him to get out. Gonzalez put the car in reverse, striking Arroyo, then drove forward, pinning her under the vehicle and dragging her across the intersection. The defendant crashed the vehicle into a snowbank and exited the ambulance.



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An off-duty MTA Police Officer was nearby and saw the defendant drag the victim with the ambulance and confronted him. When Gonzalez tried to run away, the Officer tackled the defendant and handcuffed him, with the help of several civilians.

Arroyo sustained multiple injuries and was taken to Jacobi Medical Center, where she was pronounced dead.

The case was prosecuted by George Suminski, Homicide Counsel in the Homicide Bureau, and Michael Schordine, Deputy Chief of Trial Bureau 60, 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 Assistant District Attorney Samuel Bruce of the Community Justice Bureau, Chief Appellate Attorney Peter Coddington and Assistant District Attorney John Komondorea, both of the Appeals Bureau, for their assistance.

District Attorney Clark also thanked BXDA Senior Detective Investigators Yanireth Pascal and John Reilly, BXDA Video Technician Andy Victor, and Crime Victim Advocate Eric Sawyers, Clinical Therapist Evelyn Trinidad-Armenia, and former Crime Victim Advocate Priscilla Taveras, of the Crime Victims Assistance Bureau.

District Attorney Clark thanked the 43rd Precinct Detective Squad, specifically NYPD Detective Robert Rentas, and NYPD Detective Christopher Skulsky from Bronx Homicide for their work in the investigation.

District Attorney Clark thanked former MTA Police Officer Daniel McDade.

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