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**50-2023**  
**For Immediate Release**  
**August 10, 2023**

**RIKERS ISLAND INMATE INDICTED FOR ATTEMPTING TO ESCAPE  
WHILE DRESSED AS A NYC DOC OFFICER  
Defendant Was Caught Near Exit After Passing Multiple Correction Officers**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Rikers Island inmate has been indicted for Attempted Escape for allegedly attempting to flee the jail, disguised as a Correction Officer.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendant allegedly stole a Correction Officer uniform, put it on and was stopped on his way to an exit when an officer grew suspicious and detained him."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Bokeem Jones, 28, of Brooklyn, was arraigned today on two counts of Attempted Escape in the first-degree, Attempted Escape in the second-degree, and Attempted Escape in the third-degree before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Kim Parker. He was remanded and is due back in court on November 13, 2023.

According to the investigation, on July 27, 2023, the defendant was in the Otis Bantum Correctional Center when he allegedly walked into an area that was off-limits to detainees. There were plastic bags containing belongings of Correction Officers who left them when the facility was closed for renovations several years ago. The defendant allegedly found a uniform that fit, put it on and took an umbrella that was in the area and used it to block his face. He allegedly walked past multiple officers, with one officer unlocking the door for him so he could enter the intake area. On his way to an exit, Jones was asked for his DOC shield by a Correction Officer who became suspicious. When the defendant couldn't provide it, he was detained.

The case is being prosecuted by Senior Investigative Assistant District Attorney Miriam Bell-Blair, under the supervision of Jonathan Abramovitz, Director of Rikers Island Violence Reduction Initiative, and Jose Arocho, Deputy Chief of the Rikers Island Prosecution Bureau, and Francis Alberts, Chief of the Rikers Island Prosecution Bureau, and under the overall supervision of Denise Kodjo, Deputy Chief of the Investigations Division, and Wanda Perez-Maldonado, Chief of the Investigations Division.



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District Attorney Clark thanked DOC Correction Officer Investigators Walter Holmes and John Cammisuli of the Correction Intelligence Bureau for their work in the investigation.

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

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