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**61-2023**  
**For Immediate Release**  
**September 21, 2023**

**12 ALLEGED 5ZZLY CREW MEMBERS INDICTED FOR MULTIPLE  
SHOOTINGS, INCLUDING FATAL SHOOTING OF INNOCENT BYSTANDER;  
CARJACKINGS AND VIOLENT ROBBERIES  
Defendants Carried Out 23 Incidents;  
Targeted Elderly Victims in Holdups**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark and New York City Police Commissioner Edward Caban today announced that 12 alleged “5zzly” crew members have been indicted on murder, attempted murder, conspiracy, and additional charges for multiple shootings across the Bronx, many in broad daylight, and the killing of an innocent bystander, and robberies in the Bronx, Queens and Manhattan in which cab drivers, elderly people, and a parole officer were targeted.

District Attorney Clark said, “The defendants, who are between the ages of 16 and 22, allegedly carried out 23 violent crimes, including the fatal shooting of an innocent bystander, attempted murders against rival gang members, and robberies of elderly victims. These defendants terrorized the people of the Bronx, carrying out these shootings and robberies in broad daylight, sending Bronxites, including mothers with children, running for cover.

“We will not tolerate this violence that plagues our communities and threatens the everyday lives of residents. The people of the Bronx have the right to live peacefully, without the fear of getting caught in the crossfire of gang disputes or becoming a victim of a gunpoint robbery. I thank the NYPD Gun Violence Suppression Division for working with our office in this major investigation. We must all work together to keep the Bronx safe.”

New York City Police Commissioner Edward A. Caban said, “The work of the Gun Violence Suppression Division along with its many partners, both in the NYPD and at the Bronx District Attorney’s Office, is saving lives. New York City will never be a place where ongoing gang feuds can proceed unchecked. If you are willing to pick-up an illegal firearm and pull the trigger, you can expect the full weight of this Department and its partners to hold you accountable. I want to thank the many talented investigators who built a strong case and allowed justice to be delivered on behalf of the Bronx residents who were forced to endure this dangerous, criminal behavior.”



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The 110-count indictment charges second-degree Murder, first-degree Manslaughter, 24 counts of second-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon, nine counts of Attempted Murder in the second degree, three counts of Attempted Assault in the first degree, seven counts of second-degree Assault, 11 counts of Criminal Possession of a Firearm, six counts of first-degree Reckless Endangerment, nine counts of first-degree Robbery, 15 counts of second-degree Robbery, five counts of third-degree Robbery, first-degree Gang Assault, three counts of Attempted Robbery in the second degree, six counts of third-degree Robbery, Attempted Robbery in the third degree, two counts of fourth-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon, second-degree Conspiracy, and three counts of fourth-degree Conspiracy.

Jaquell Blackwell, Abdoul Azika and Davion Collen were arraigned and remanded; Daniel Chambers was released under supervision and curfew on September 20, 2023 before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Joseph McCormack. Six other defendants are in custody for other cases and are awaiting arraignment, and two other defendants are apprehended and are awaiting arraignment.

According to the investigation, between February 2021 and June 2023, the defendants, who are alleged members of the “5zzly” crew of the Blood Hound Brims, allegedly carried out multiple shootings against rival gang members. The incidents include the homicide of Ariel Santos, an innocent bystander, 10 non-fatal shootings, 11 robberies, and one gun possession.

The defendants allegedly robbed people at gunpoint or knifepoint, targeting victims that were 69-72 years old, as well as an on-duty NYS parole officer and cab drivers. The defendants allegedly took the victims’ cellphones and other items. The defendants also allegedly carjacked four vehicles—two cabs, a Chevrolet Suburban and a Lexus. Two of the vehicles were used in shootings.

Some of the Crimes alleged in the indictment:

- On April 5, 2021, defendants Abdoul Azika, Devante Russell, Mathius Andrades and Justin Polanco allegedly fired multiple shots at rival gang members of the Doe Ave crew. The incident took place on the corner of Hoe Avenue and East 174<sup>th</sup> Street. The defendants, acting in concert with each other, allegedly fired at least three shots as a mother and two children walked nearby, in range of their weapons.



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- On April 19, 2021, at about 6:00 p.m., defendants allegedly engaged in a shootout at 1825 Prospect Avenue, firing 18 shots.
- On April 26, 2021, defendants Nathaniel Jenkins and Mathius Andrades allegedly fired shots in the vicinity of 764 East 178<sup>th</sup> Street, striking Justin Baez, an alleged “800YGZ” rival gang member, in the arm. Baez survived.
- On May 25, 2021, at approximately 6:00 p.m., in the vicinity of 178<sup>th</sup> Street and Arthur Avenue, defendants Polanco, Russell, Andrades and Antoine Scriber, acting in concert with each other, allegedly fired multiple shots from a car at a 800YGZ gang member. The defendants struck Ariel Santos, 32, in the chest. The victim was an innocent bystander who was near his home standing on the corner when the shooting happened. He was taken to St. Barnabas Hospital where he was pronounced dead.
- On October 18, 2021, at approximately 5:45 a.m., in the vicinity of 1449 Leland Avenue, defendants Azika, Jaquell Blackwell and Michael Outler allegedly robbed an on-duty parole officer at gunpoint. The defendants took the victim’s firearm and cellphone. On that afternoon, Azika and Outler used the officer’s gun during a shooting on 919 East 174<sup>th</sup> Street, endangering the lives of innocent bystanders.
- In separate incidents in May 2023, defendants Azika, Outler, Blackwell, and Jassan Abrams allegedly conducted three gunpoint robberies. The victims were two 69-year-old males and a 73-year-old male. One of the victims was pistol-whipped and his head was cracked open.
- On June 19, 2023, Azika, Blackwell and Abrams allegedly stole a wallet and cellphone from a man in Queens, N.Y., at gunpoint. The victim was severely beaten, and doctors had to perform a tracheotomy. The victim was in a coma for three days.



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The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jillian Castellon, Supervisor in Trial Bureau 60, and Christine Scaccia, Chief of the Homicide Bureau, 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 Bryan McRinna, Team leader/Supervisor in Trial Bureau 60, Kimberly Cameron Team leader/Supervisor in the Homicide Bureau, Susanna Imbo, Chief of Trial Bureau 60, Diane Gatto, Chief of Grand Jury Bureau, and Assistant District Attorney Tammy Vadasz, Supervisor in the Grand Jury Unit.

District Attorney Clark thanked the NYPD Gun Violence Suppression Division, specifically Detective Patrick Nichols, Sergeant Christopher Neil, Sergeant Sandy Rodriguez, Lieutenant Rafael Tosado, Inspector Craig Edelman, Chief Jason Savino, and Police Officer Alexis Melo, and the Bronx Robbery Squad, 42<sup>nd</sup> Precinct Detective Squad, 43<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Detective Squad, 47<sup>th</sup> Precinct Detective Squad, the 48<sup>th</sup> Precinct Detective Squad, the 115<sup>th</sup> Precinct, and the Queens Robbery Squad.

**Defendants:**

**Abdoul Azika, AKA AB, 19**  
**Michael Outler, AKA Mike, AKA Spazz, 18**  
**Devante Russell, AKA Dev, 20**  
**Justin Polanco, AKA Jay, 21**  
**Matthius Andrades, AKA Sammy, 18**  
**Jaquell Blackwell, AKA JQ, 18**  
**Daniel Chambers, AKA Briscoe, 18**  
**Antione Scriber, AKA Ant, 20**  
**Nathaniel Jenkins, AKA NDot, AKA Fiveshots, 16**  
**Davion Collen, AKA Davi, 20**  
**Thomas Plegnon, AKA T5, 16**  
**Jassan Abrams, AKA Bando, 18**

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

**##**