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**21-2023**  
**For Immediate Release**  
**April 13, 2023**

## **BRONX MAN INDICTED IN DEATH OF DOG** **Defendant Slammed Pup's Head on Table, Killing Him Instantly**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man has been indicted for Aggravated Cruelty to Animals for allegedly killing a 7-year-old Pomeranian dog during an argument with his ex-girlfriend.

District Attorney Clark said, "This was a spectacularly brutal act of animal abuse. The defendant is being held accountable for allegedly causing multiple fractures to the little dog's head, killing him instantly."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Victor Castillo, 32, of Webb Avenue, the Bronx, was arraigned Wednesday on an indictment charging Aggravated Cruelty to Animals, New York Agricultural and Markets Law section 353-a, a felony, before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Guy Mitchell. He is due back in court on May 4, 2023.

According to the investigation, on February 9, 2023, Castillo had an argument with his ex-girlfriend in her apartment on Arthur Avenue, when he picked up her pet dog, Ken-Shin, a 9 ½-pound Pomeranian, by the neck and slammed his head onto a wooden coffee table, causing blood to splatter around the room, and killing the dog instantly. A post-mortem examination of Ken-Shin by the A.S.P.C.A. revealed that the blunt force trauma to his head caused him to have multiple skull fractures and lacerations to his brain which caused his death.

The case is being prosecuted by Senior Investigative Assistant District Attorney Kevin Griffin of the Special Investigations Bureau and Senior Investigative Assistant District Attorney Robert Eisman of the Economic Crimes Bureau, under the supervision of VCEB Deputy Chief Ronald Sannicandro and VCEB Bureau Chief Newton Mendys, and the overall supervision of Denise Kodjo, Deputy Chief of the Investigations Division and Wanda Perez-Maldonado, Chief of the Investigations Division. District Attorney Clark thanked Assistant District Attorney Rebekah Cohen of the Domestic Violence Bureau and Trial Preparation Assistant Onaaida Nkurmah for assistance in the case.



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District Attorney Clark thanked the A.S.P.C.A., specifically Dr. Deana Rowlison, and NYPD Detective Janet Ospina, of the Animal Cruelty Investigation Squad, for their work on this investigation.

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