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## BRONX WOMAN INDICTED FOR 1<sup>st</sup> DEGREE MURDER IN DEATHS OF HER 5-YEAR-OLD TWINS

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx woman has been indicted for first-degree Murder and related charges in the deaths of her five-year-old twins last December.

District Attorney Clark said, "This tragedy, occurring right before the holidays, was incredibly devastating. The young brother and sister were discovered lying together, lifeless, in their apartment. Their mother allegedly killed these children and will be held accountable."

District Attorney Clark said Gloria Asamoah, 42, of 240 East 175<sup>th</sup> Street has been indicted on first-degree Murder (for causing the death of more than one person in a single incident), two counts of second-degree Murder, two counts of first-degree Manslaughter, and two counts of second-degree Manslaughter. She was arraigned today before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Brenda Rivera and was remanded. The defendant is due back in court on July 17, 2024.

According to the investigation, the defendant, on or about December 18, 2023, in the apartment she shared with her children and their father, with the intent to cause the death of another person, caused the death of George Kantanka, and as part of the same criminal transaction and with the intent to cause serious physical injury to or the death of an additional person, caused the death of Gianna Kantanka. Initially, the defendant blamed illness for the children's deaths, however the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner ruled the manner of death was homicide and the cause was asphyxiation by smothering, by covering their mouths and noses, leaving visible physical injuries.

The case is being prosecuted by Major Case Assistant District Attorney Tiffany Wichman of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, with the assistance of Assistant District Attorney Rachael Baughman, under the supervision of Johanna Hernandez and Alexandra Militano, Deputy Chiefs of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, Mimi Mairs, Chief of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, and the overall supervision of Adrienne Giunta, Deputy Chief of the Special Victims Division and Joseph Muroff, Chief of the Special Victims Division.



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District Attorney Clark thanked TPA Elaina Clarke and Carina Diaz from the Crime Victims Assistance Bureau for their assistance in the case.

District Attorney Clark thanked NYPD Detective Nadine Burgos from the 46<sup>th</sup> Precinct Detective Squad and Detective Anthony Caltabiano from the Bronx Homicide Squad for their work in the investigation. District Attorney Clark also thanked all of the emergency medical personnel from the FDNY and BronxCare Hospital Center for their assistance.

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