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DARCEL D. CLARK
DISTRICT ATTORNEY, BRONX COUNTY

198 EAST 161ST STREET
BRONX, N.Y. 10451
(718) 590-2234

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For Immediate Release
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RIKERS ISLAND INMATE INDICTED FOR SLASHING NYC DOC OFFICER

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Rikers Island inmate has been indicted on Attempted Assault in the first degree and related charges for slashing a Correction Officer in the face.

District Attorney Clark said, “The defendant allegedly approached the Correction Officer from behind and slashed him in an unprovoked attack. Violence of any kind in jail will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.”

New York City Department of Correction Commissioner Lynelle Maginley-Liddie said “DOC's dedicated Correction Officers come to work each day committed to maintaining the dignity, humanity, and safety of everyone living and working in our facilities. They deserve to return home to their families without fear of violence or injury while on the job. I am grateful to the Bronx District Attorney's Office for taking this case seriously and pursuing strong charges and my thoughts are with the officer who was injured in this unprovoked and disturbing attack. We will continue to stand shoulder to shoulder with our staff, support this officer's recovery, and hold anyone who assaults our staff fully accountable.”

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Shemar Hassani-Shaw, 24, of Brooklyn, was arraigned today by Bronx Supreme Court Justice George Villegas on two counts of Attempted Assault in the first-degree, Attempted Assault in the second-degree, three counts of second-degree Assault, two counts of first-degree Promoting Prison Contraband, two counts of second-degree Promoting Prison Contraband, Obstructing Governmental Administration, third-degree Assault and two counts of fourth-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon. Bail was continued



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at \$100,000 cash, \$300,000 bond. He is due back in court on March 11, 2026.

According to the investigation, on December 3, 2025, at approximately 9:46 a.m. inside the Otis Bantum Correctional Center at Rikers Island, inmate Hassani-Shaw approached a Correction Officer from behind holding a sharp object and allegedly slashed him across the cheek. When the defendant was stopped, he threw a sharp metal object to the ground. While being searched, a sharpened piece of plastic fell to the ground from the defendant's person. Both were recovered.

This attack was unprovoked. It was captured on video surveillance. The Correction Officer suffered a laceration and was treated at a local hospital.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Nilani Ekanayake under the supervision of Edward Christian Uy, Deputy Chief of the Rikers Island Prosecution Bureau and Jose Arocho, Chief of 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.

District Attorney Clark thanked Trial Preparation Assistant Supervisor Netanya Pierrot of the Investigations Division and Tamara Hall of the Rikers Island Prosecution Bureau for their assistance on the case.

District Attorney Clark thanked New York City Department of Correction, Central Intelligence Bureau Investigators Epifanio Vasquez, Jeffrey Rios and Walter Holmes for their work on the investigation.

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