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**For Immediate Release**  
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**BRONX DA DARCEL D. CLARK, ELECTED OFFICIALS AND BUSINESS LEADER  
ASK SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS TO HELP CURB “TAKEOVERS”  
LIKE ONE AT BAY PLAZA MALL IN FEBRUARY  
Hundreds of Unruly Teens Summoned to Riot; Part of National Trend**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark, joined by Bronx elected officials, [urgently requested TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram, and YouTube](#) to take proactive measures to prevent the spread of content that encourages riots and other unsafe mass gatherings, in light of the violent takeover of the Mall at Bay Plaza on President’s Day.

“In anticipation of the upcoming spring break (April 2 through April 10), I and my fellow elected officials and business leaders urge your companies to take proactive measures,” said the letter sent to the platforms’ Chief Executive Officers co-signed by District Attorney Clark, Bronx Borough President Vanessa Gibson, Senator Jamaal T. Bailey, Assembly Member Michael Benedetto, and NYC Council Members Kevin Riley and Althea Stevens, and Eric Shalem, VP of Prestige Properties/Mall at Bay Plaza.

The officials asked that the platforms “monitor and remove posts that actively encourage or organize mall takeovers or similar gatherings, work with local law enforcement and community organizations to identify trends in youth-driven events that pose public safety risks, educate users, especially minors, on the legal consequences and danger of organizing or participating in mass takeovers, and suspend social media privileges for those who incite such incidents.”

District Attorney Clark said, “Social media is an influential driver in the lives of young people and how they communicate. In February, we witnessed the horrific “takeover” of the Mall at Bay Plaza, where stores were trashed, mall employees were berated, the safety of Mall patrons was placed at risk, and teens placed themselves in danger. This violent event was possible because of the misuse of social media hashtags. I am urging the owners of these platforms to use their power to stem these “takeovers” from happening in the Bronx and across the nation.”