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69-2026

For Immediate Release

August 3, 2026

**BRONX MAN INDICTED FOR RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINOR
CHILDREN OVER AN EIGHT YEAR PERIOD**

Defendant Met Some Victims at Family Shelters Where He Was Living with His Family

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man has been indicted on multiple charges for allegedly committing sex crimes against minor children, including Sexual Abuse, Criminal Sexual Act, Predatory Sexual Assault Against a Child, Use of a Child in a Sexual Performance, and Rape.

District Attorney Clark said, “This defendant allegedly preyed on vulnerable children over the course of several years, some of whom he met while he was living at two family shelters with his children. He is alleged to have methodically manipulated these children to satisfy his deviant sexual desires. We will get justice for these innocent children and their families.”

District Attorney Clark said that defendant Stephen Charles a.k.a. “Jay,” 42, of Grace Avenue, in the Bronx was arraigned today on the following charges by Bronx Supreme Court Justice Eugene Bowen – five counts of Predatory Sexual Assault Against a Child, three counts of first-degree Course of Sexual Conduct Against a Child, five counts of first-degree Criminal Sexual Act, five counts of first-degree Sexual Abuse, five counts of Use of a Child in a Sexual Performance, seven counts of Promoting a Sexual Performance of a Child, six counts of Possessing a Sexual Performance by a Child, three counts of first-degree Rape, and six counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child. He was remanded and due back in court September 1, 2026.

This indictment covers allegations made by six victims, all minor children at the time of the abuse. According to the investigation, the defendant’s alleged conduct took place at various locations, which include a family shelter at 1056 Boynton Avenue, a family shelter at 115 Henwood Place, and his apartment on Grace Avenue. In 2018, defendant befriended a woman and her son (Complainant #1) while living with his children at the Boynton Avenue shelter. The defendant is alleged to have begun sexually abusing the 11-year-old boy in September 2018. The



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alleged abuse continued until September 2022. Investigators found a recording of the alleged sexual abuse on the defendant's cell phone.

The sexual abuse of Complainant #2 is alleged to have begun in April 2018 when the child was 9 years old and continued until May 2026. The defendant befriended Complainant #2's family while living in the Boynton Avenue shelter. Investigators found a recording of the alleged sexual abuse on the defendant's cell phone.

Defendant moved into the Henwood Place family shelter in 2019. There, he met and befriended a woman who was living there with her four children. The defendant allegedly sexually abused this woman's daughter (Complainant #3) from January 2020 to May 2022, when the child was approximately 7 years old to approximately 9 years old.

Defendant is also accused of sexually abusing the son of an ex-girlfriend from October 2023 to May 2026. The boy was 8 years old when the alleged sexual abuse began. Investigators found recordings of the alleged sexual abuse on the defendant's cell phone.

Complainant #5 is the defendant's own biological son. It is alleged that the defendant sexually abused his son from December 2023 through May 2026. Investigators found recordings of the alleged sexual abuse on the defendant's cell phone.

Complainant #6 was allegedly sexually abused by the defendant on multiple occasions from June 2024 to May 2026, when the victim was 11 years old to 13 years old. On one occasion, Complainant #2 was present in the defendant's Grace Avenue apartment and witnessed the alleged sexual abuse of this victim. Investigators found recordings of the alleged sexual abuse on the defendant's cell phone.

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

District Attorney Clark thanked Trial Preparation Supervisor Elaina Clarke, Digital Forensic Examiner Katelyn Lam, under the supervision of Selena Ley, Director of the Digital



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Forensic Laboratory, and all members of the Video Unit and Grand Jury Bureau for their assistance in the case.

District Attorney Clark also thanked the NYPD Detective Matthew Sanchez and his team from the Bronx Special Victims Squad for their significant work in the investigation.

If you or someone you know, has any information regarding this matter, or would like to discuss any other conduct relating to Stephen Charles a.k.a. “Jay,” please contact Detective Matthew Sanchez, at the Bronx Special Victims Unit of the New York Police Department at (718) 378-8936, or Assistant District Attorney Rachael Baughman, at the Bronx District Attorney’s Office at (718) 664-2339.

An indictment is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.