



VISIT US:    

DARCEL D. CLARK
DISTRICT ATTORNEY, BRONX COUNTY

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

71-2026
For Immediate Release
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**BRONX MAN SENTENCED FOR FATALLY SHOOTING THE
HUSBAND OF A WOMAN HE HAD BEEN ROMANTICALLY INVOLVED WITH**
Shooting Took Place Within an Hour of Victim's Wife Ending the Affair

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man was sentenced to 20 years in prison for shooting a romantic rival to death.

District Attorney Clark said, "This defendant was unable to accept the fact that the victim's wife had decided to end her affair with the defendant. In a fit of uncontrolled rage, he took the life of a man who was loved by his family."

District Attorney Clark said defendant Pedro Mercado, 54, the Bronx, was sentenced on August 6, 2026, to 20 years in prison with five years of post-release supervision by Bronx Supreme Court Justice Margaret Clancy. On April 17, 2026, Mercado was convicted by a jury on first-degree manslaughter and second-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon.

According to the facts brought out at trial, on September 4, 2023, at approximately 12:40 am. in the parking lot of 645 Westchester Avenue, the defendant beat, pistol whipped and shot Joshua Antonetti in the head. The victim was rushed to NYC Health + Hospitals/Lincoln where he died the next day. The defendant had been dating the victim's wife, but an hour before the shooting, she had broken off her relationship with Mercado.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Nicholas W. DiCostanzo of the Homicide Bureau and Assistant District Attorney Alfonso Nazzaro of Trial Bureau 50, under the supervision of Burim Namani, Deputy Chief of the Homicide Bureau, Christine Scaccia, Chief of the Homicide Bureau and under the overall supervision of James Brennan, Deputy Chief of the Trial Division and Theresa Gottlieb Chief of the Trial Division.

District Attorney Clark thanked Trial Preparation Assistant Mateo Urrego and Crime Victim Advocate Kayla Santiago for their assistance in the case.



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District Attorney Clark thanked BXDA Detective Investigators Modesto Acevedo, Arlyn Rivera, Nicholas Zayas and Paula Alegria and Video Technician Stalin Crespo for their work in the investigation

District Attorney Clark thanked NYPD Detective Brian Destefano of the 40th Precinct Detective Squad and Detective Kevin Mockel of the Bronx Homicide Squad for their work in the investigation.