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Release #255-2006
www.queensda.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2006

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**D.A. BROWN: 15-YEAR-OLD CHARGED WITH MURDER
OF FAR ROCKAWAY HIGH SCHOOL HONOR STUDENT**

Faces Up to 15 Years to Life In Prison

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown today announced that a 15-year-old youth has been charged with the shooting death of a 16-year-old high school honor student standing outside his Far Rockaway home last month.

District Attorney Brown said, "The victim - - a Far Rockaway High School honor student - - had a promising future which, in an instant, was taken from him when, without warning, the defendant allegedly fired a gun in his direction, killing him. The incident was unprovoked and underscores my office's commitment to remain vigilant in the fight to rid the streets of Queens County of illegal weapons."

District Attorney Brown identified the defendant as Sashawn D. Simpson, 15, of 440 Beach 54th Street in Far Rockaway. The defendant has been charged with Murder in the Second Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second and Third Degrees. If convicted, he faces up to 15 years to life in prison.

The District Attorney said that, according to the criminal complaint, the victim, Christopher Glenn, 16, of 51-11 Alemda Avenue in Far Rockaway, was standing in the vicinity of his home at approximately 6:55 p.m. on November 27, 2006, when the defendant rode up on a bicycle, pulled out a 9 mm handgun and fired several shots in Mr. Glenn's direction, striking him once in the neck. Mr. Glenn was taken to Peninsula Hospital Center where he was pronounced dead.

The District Attorney said that the defendant was arraigned last night before Queens Criminal Court Judge Suzanne Melendez, who ordered the defendant held without bail and set a return date of December 19, 2006.

Assistant District Attorney Marissa Gillespie of the District Attorney's Homicide Investigations Bureau is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Peter T. Reese, Bureau Chief, Peter J. McCormack III, Deputy Bureau Chief, and Richard B. Schaeffer, Senior Trial Attorney, and the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Major Crimes Charles A. Testagrossa and Deputy Executive Assistant District Attorney for Major Crimes Daniel A. Saunders.

It should be noted that a criminal complaint is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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Note to Editors: E-version of this press release posted at www.queensda.org.