



RICHARD A. BROWN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY
QUEENS COUNTY**
125-01 QUEENS BOULEVARD
KEW GARDENS, NEW YORK 11415-1568
718-286-6000

Release # 161-2006
www.queensda.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, JULY 17, 2006

CONTACT: KEVIN RYAN
NICOLE NAVAS
MERIS CAMPBELL
(718) 286-6315

**D.A. BROWN: HOWARD BEACH BAT ATTACKER SENTENCED
TO 15 YEARS IN PRISON IN BIAS-RELATED ASSAULT AND ROBBERY INCIDENT**
Convicted of Beating Victim with Aluminum Baseball Bat While Uttering Racial Slurs

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that a twenty-year-old Howard Beach man convicted of critically injuring and robbing a young black man during a bias-related baseball bat attack last summer has been sentenced to 15 years in state prison.

District Attorney Brown said, "The sentence imposed today is reflective not just of the seriousness of the defendant's crimes – and the condemnation by society of those crimes – but also of the defendant's prior acts of violence and his failure to take responsibility for his actions."

The District Attorney added, "The defendant has exhibited a propensity for violence and intolerance. He has been found guilty of assaulting his victim in a brutal act of violence motivated by the color of his victim's skin – and he has failed to accept responsibility for his actions. Today's sentence sends a clear message that such brutal, racially motivated crimes as those of which the defendant has been convicted can never be tolerated and when they do regrettably, occur, they will result in severe and certain punishment."

The District Attorney said that on June 9, 2006, following a three-week jury trial presided over by Queens Supreme Court Justice Richard L. Buchter, the defendant, Nicholas Minucci, 20, of 156-45 78th Street in Howard Beach, was found guilty of second-degree assault as a hate crime, first-degree robbery as a hate crime, second-degree robbery as a hate crime, fifth-degree criminal possession of stolen property and fourth-degree criminal possession of a weapon.

District Attorney Brown said that, according to trial testimony, at approximately 3:30 a.m. on June 29, 2005, in the vicinity of 160th Avenue and 78th Street in Howard Beach the defendant physically attacked his victim, Glenn Moore, 22, uttering racial epithets, and beating him severely with an aluminum baseball bat. The victim, who sustained a fractured skull and other injuries, was then robbed of his sneakers by the defendant and a co-defendant, Anthony Ench.

The District Attorney said that police officers assigned to the New York City Police Department's Hate Crimes Unit arrested Minucci about 11 hours after the attack on a nearby street in Howard Beach as he was driving a 2005 Cadillac Escalade that he used in the attack. The victim's sneakers, shirt and shoes were found in the defendant's possession.

Minucci's co-defendant, Anthony Ench, 22, of 156-16 77th Street in Howard Beach, Queens, pleaded guilty on October 11, 2005 to second-degree attempted robbery, a Class D violent felony, and second-degree attempted assault as a hate crime, a Class D felony, and was sentenced on October 28, 2005 to serve concurrent determinate terms of two years and one year in prison.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Mariela Herring, Bureau Chief of the District Attorney's Gang Violence and Hate Crimes Bureau, and Michelle E. Goldstein, Deputy Bureau Chief, and with assistance of Assistant District Attorney Brian E. Kohm, under the overall supervision of Senior Executive Assistant District Attorney for Trials James C. Quinn and Deputy Executive Assistant District Attorney for Trials Robert J. Masters.

#

Note to Editors: Press release e-version posted at www.queensda.org.