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**D.A. BROWN: QUEENS MAN ARRAIGNED ON CHARGES  
OF MURDERING MOTHER WITH BARBELL AND ASSAULTING FATHER**

*Defendant Held Without Bail; Faces Life in Prison*

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that a 25-year-old Fresh Meadows man has been arraigned on charges of stabbing his mother in the head and beating her to death with a twenty-pound barbell when she became involved in a physical dispute between him and his father.

District Attorney Brown said, "It is difficult to imagine a crime more heinous than that of a son viciously attacking his parents and, in the process, fatally beating his mother to death. The charges against the defendant will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law."

District Attorney Brown identified the defendant as Michael Anthony, 25, of 65-82 160<sup>th</sup> Street in Fresh Meadows. The defendant was arraigned last night before Queens Criminal Court Judge Alex Zigman on a criminal complaint, charging him with second-degree murder, third-degree assault and fourth-degree criminal possession of a weapon. Anthony, who faces up to 25 years to life in prison if convicted, was ordered held without bail and to return to court on August 13, 2007.

The District Attorney said that, according to the criminal charges, the defendant was watching a New York Mets game in his family's apartment on the night of July 28, 2007, when he began banging on the walls. At that point, his father, Fred Fischman, came into the room and yelled at him to stop. It is alleged that a physical fight then took place between the two men, during which Fischman was punched about the face and thrown to the ground. As the defendant's mother, 61-year-old Maria Fischman, attempted to intercede, the defendant allegedly pushed her and stabbed her once in the head with a knife. Mrs. Fischman then ran into the bedroom, where the defendant allegedly struck her several times in the head with a twenty-pound barbell.

District Attorney Brown said that the defendants were arrested at the scene by police officers assigned to the New York City Police Department's 107<sup>th</sup> Precinct. Detective Daniel Colon, of the 107<sup>th</sup> Precinct Detective Squad, conducted the investigation under the supervision of Sergeant Bronco Yurisak, Commanding Officer.

Assistant District Attorney Marissa B. 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 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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