



RICHARD A. BROWN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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

Release # 221-2007
www.queensda.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2007

CONTACT: KEVIN RYAN
HELEN PETERSON
MERIS CAMPBELL
(718) 286-6315

**D.A. BROWN: ALLEGED UNLICENSED MOTORIST ARRAIGNED
ON CHARGES OF ATTEMPTED MURDER OF UNIFORMED POLICE OFFICER**

*Allegedly Drove Off, Dragging Uniformed Police Officer Down Street And Ramming Into Parked Cars
To Disengage Trapped Officer from Vehicle; Faces Up to 25 Years in Prison*

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that a 56-year-old Brooklyn man was arraigned earlier this week on charges of attempted murder of an on-duty New York City police officer following a traffic stop. The officer, whose uniform became caught on the defendant's car, was allegedly dragged along the street and rammed into parked cars by the defendant in an effort to dislocate him before fleeing the scene.

District Attorney Brown said, "The defendant is charged with seriously endangering the life of a uniformed New York City police officer while trying to flee after being stopped for a minor traffic infraction and being unable to produce a driver's license. This case underscores yet again the dangers faced by New York City police officers in the performance of their duty."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Frederick Leggett, 51, of 699 Quincy Street in Brooklyn. The defendant, who was arraigned on Wednesday, November 28, 2007, before Queens Criminal Court Judge Ira Margulis, is charged with second-degree attempted murder, second-degree assault, first-degree reckless endangerment, resisting arrest and various violations of the vehicle and traffic laws, including a felony charge of leaving the scene of an accident without reporting, reckless driving, improper right turn and driving by an unlicensed driver. Leggett, who faces up to 25 years in prison if convicted, was ordered held without bail and return to court on December 12, 2007.

District Attorney Brown said that, according to the charges, uniformed Police Officer Kurwin Klein, 24, of the 110th Precinct, observed Leggett, who was driving a 1991 Ford Explorer, making an illegal turn at approximately 4:55 p.m. on November 25, 2007, at the intersection of Queens Boulevard and 55th Avenue, which caused another vehicle to take evasive action to avoid being struck by Leggett's vehicle. When Officer Klein stopped and approached Leggett's vehicle, the defendant allegedly could not produce a driver's license upon the officer's request. It is alleged that the defendant then attempted to flee in his vehicle, causing Officer Klein's jacket to catch on the vehicle. According to the criminal complaint, Leggett continued to accelerate down the street while dragging Officer Klein. When Officer Klein banged on the vehicle's door, Leggett allegedly proceeded to ram his vehicle, along with Officer Klein, into parked cars until the officer became disengaged. Leggett then allegedly drove off without stopping or waiting for law enforcement or emergency vehicles to arrive at the scene.

Officer Klein was transported to a local Queens hospital, where he was treated for a concussion, bruised ribs, contusions and lacerations on his left arm and substantial pain to his neck and back.

The defendant was arrested by detectives from the New York City Police Department's 110th Precinct Detective Squad.

Assistant District Attorney Patricia M. Theodorou, of the District Attorney's Career Criminal Major Crimes Bureau, is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys James W. Evangelou, Bureau Chief, and Robert J. Hanophy, Deputy Bureau Chief, and the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Trials James Clark Quinn and Deputy Executive Assistant District Attorneys for Trial John H. Larsen and Robert J. Masters.

It should be noted that criminal charges are merely accusations 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