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D.A. BROWN: QUEENS VILLAGE RESIDENT PLEADS GUILTY
IN 2003 SHOOTING DEATH OF 20-YEAR-OLD MAN

Faces 15 Years to Life in Prison

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that a Queens Village resident – who was sixteen-years-old at the time of the incident – has pleaded guilty to murdering a young man who had been playing football in the street with his friends.

District Attorney Brown said, “The victim was enjoying an autumn evening by playing a game of touch football with friends in the street when the defendant came upon them and fired one shot, striking the victim in the stomach and killing him. The defendant’s actions robbed a young man of his life and more than justify the lengthy prison sentence to be imposed.”

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Antoine Robinson, now 20, of 115-88 226th Street in Queens Village. The defendant pleaded guilty yesterday to second-degree murder before Queens Supreme Court Justice Robert J. Hanophy who indicated that he would likely sentence the defendant to an indeterminate term of 15 years to life in prison at sentencing on October 24, 2007.

The District Attorney said that, according to the charges, the defendant saw the victim, Luis Salazar, playing football in front of 147-07 Hillside Avenue with several of his friends at approximately 8:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 12, 2003. The defendant walked by the group of young men several times before approaching Mr. Salazar and shooting him once in the stomach before fleeing. The defendant was arrested ten days later and claimed that the victim had been smiling and laughing at him.

Assistant District Attorney Dianna L. Megias of the District Attorney’s Special Victims Bureau prosecuted the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorney Marjory Fisher, Bureau Chief, and Assistant District Attorney Kenneth Appelbaum and Lucinda Suarez, Deputy Chiefs, 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.

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