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STATEMENT BY QUEENS DISTRICT ATTORNEY RICHARD A. BROWN

St. John's University freshman Omesh Hiranman, 22, charged with bringing an unlicensed loaded .50-caliber rifle onto the Jamaica Estates campus last month, was ordered today to be remanded to a New York state psychiatric facility.

In a proceeding presided over by Queens Criminal Court Judge Joseph Zayas, Mr. Hiranman was found to be incompetent to stand trial following a report by court-appointed psychiatrists who determined that he lacked the capacity to understand the proceedings against him or assist in his own defense. Attorneys for the defendant concurred with the report's findings.

Mr. Hiranman was ordered to be turned over to the New York State Commissioner of Mental Health for a period of 90 days. At the end of that time, the State can seek additional civil commitment if deemed necessary.

As a matter of law, the charges lodged against Mr. Hiranman have been dismissed.

The defendant is clearly a very troubled young man. Under the circumstances, the Court's decision is the right one for all concerned.

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