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**Statement by Queens District Attorney
Richard A. Brown**

A sharply divided Court of Appeals has today decided that the death sentence imposed upon John Taylor by a jury of his peers cannot stand. It has, instead, directed that John Taylor be re-sentenced at which time it can be anticipated that he will be ordered to spend the rest of his life in prison without possibility of parole.

The Court's decision, for all intents and purposes, closes the book on the prosecution of those responsible for that which was among the most brutal and horrific crimes that this City has ever seen. Craig Godineaux was heretofore sentenced to spend the rest of his natural life behind bars. John Taylor will now join him. Neither will ever again see the light of day.

I hope that today's decision brings some degree of closure to the families of those who died in the basement of Wendy's restaurant in Flushing seven and one-half years ago – and to the survivors and their families, as well. I had promised them that we would see this case through to its conclusion and that in so doing we would follow the law – and that is what we have done. Our State's highest court has now spoken – albeit not with one voice – and it is for all of us to respect its decision.

Finally, I want to commend the talented and dedicated investigators and prosecutors who worked on this case from its inception. They did an extraordinary job in bringing John Taylor and Craig Godineaux to justice.

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