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D.A. BROWN: WHITESTONE TEENAGER CHARGED
IN BB GUN SHOOTING SPREE

Allegedly Shot Six Victims Over Three-Week Period

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown today announced that an 18-year Whitestone resident has been charged with going on a BB gun shooting spree over the last three weeks that resulted in injury to six individuals in the Flushing and Whitestone sections of Queens.

District Attorney Brown said, "The defendant allegedly armed with a loaded BB gun is accused of randomly and recklessly firing numerous rounds of ammunition at individuals standing on the sidewalk. Although the victims, fortunately, suffered only minor wounds, there did exist the potential for more serious injuries."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Paul Roedel, 18, of 148-19 Willets Point Boulevard in Whitestone, Queens. Roedel was arraigned today before Queens Criminal Court Steven W. Paynter on charges of second- and third-degree assault, second-degree menacing, second-degree reckless endangerment, second-degree harassment and two firearm violations of the City's administrative code. Roedel, who faces up to seven years in prison if convicted, was ordered held on \$25,000 bail and ordered to return to court on November 1, 2007.

The District Attorney said that, according to the charges, the attacks began in Whitestone shortly after midnight on September 23, 2007, when Roedel fired at a 15-year-old Forest Hills girl with a .177-caliber BB/pellet gun piercing her in the back. Thereafter, Roedel is alleged to have shot a 30-year-old Flushing woman in the right thigh at the intersection of Murray Street and 35th Avenue and a 53-year Flushing man in the left torso in front of 151-03 33rd Avenue. Two more attacks allegedly occurred in Whitestone when Rodell allegedly shot a 19-year-old College Point boy in the abdomen at the intersection of Clintonville Street and 17th Avenue and a 17-year-old Flushing girl in the upper right leg in front of 168-11 14th Avenue. Roedel was arrested following a sixth attack in which he allegedly shot a 17-year-old male acquaintance in the left leg at the intersection of 27th Avenue and 146th Street in Flushing. Just prior to the shooting, the teenage Flushing resident had allegedly seen Roedel driving a tan Nissan Maxima before he allegedly pointed the BB gun at him, called him by his nickname and fired. At the time of Roedel's arrest, police allegedly recovered a Daisy Powerline 880 .177-caliber BB/pellet gun from his car and approximately 180 .177-caliber BB gun pellets.

District Attorney Brown said that the defendant was arrested by detectives from the New York City Police Department's 109th Precinct.

The case is being prosecuted by the District Attorney's Career Criminal Major Crimes Bureau under the supervision of Assistant District Attorney James W. Evangelou, Bureau Chief, and Robert J. Hanophy, Deputy Chief, and the overall supervision of Senior Executive Assistant District Attorney for Trials James C. Quinn and Deputy Executive Assistant District Attorneys for Trials John H. Larsen and Robert J. Masters.

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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Note to Editors: E-version of this press release posted at www.queensda.org.