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Release # 42-2008
www.queensda.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2008

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**D.A. BROWN: FLUSHING COUPLE CHARGED WITH HOMICIDE
IN DEATH OF TWO-MONTH-OLD DAUGHTER**

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that the parents of an infant girl who had been hospitalized five months ago with a fractured skull and other serious injuries and died less than a week later after being declared brain dead have been charged in her death.

District Attorney Brown said, "According to the charges, the young victim suffered severe brain and eye injuries as a result of being violently shaken and at least two non-accidental blows to the head, bleeding on the brain, two broken legs and had a healing rib fracture at the time of her death – grave physical injuries for anyone, let alone an infant less than three months of age. It is shocking to consider that her parents are charged with inflicting such brutality and suffering on one as young and innocent as their own child."

The District Attorney identified the defendants as Hang Bin Li, 23, and Ying Li, 22, both of 43-18 Union Street in Flushing. They are presently awaiting arraignment in Queens Criminal Court in Kew Gardens. Hang Bin Li is charged with second-degree murder, first- and second-degree manslaughter and endangering the welfare of a child and his wife, Ying Li, is charged with second-degree manslaughter and endangering the welfare of a child. If convicted, Hang Bin Li faces up to 25 years to life in prison and Ying Li faces up to 15 years in prison.

District Attorney Brown said that, according to the charges, Hang Bin Li called a friend on the afternoon of October 22, 2007, and told him that his two and one-half month-old daughter Annie Li was sick and that he needed the friend to take her for a check-up. When the friend arrived at the Li residence at approximately 8:00 p.m. it is alleged, he saw that the infant was sweating, not moving her arms or legs, and making distressed gurgling sounds. Despite her apparent sickly condition, it is alleged, that the defendants chose not to seek immediate medical treatment for their daughter but instead called their parents in China to discuss Annie Li's condition. It was only after the baby became very sick around midnight, it is charged, was 911 called at approximately one o'clock in the morning. The baby was rushed to the emergency room at Flushing Hospital Medical Center. She was admitted to the hospital in an unresponsive condition without a heartbeat or pulse and that, once revived, placed on life support.

Thereafter, it is alleged, on October 24, 2007, Hang Bin Li told police through a Mandarin Chinese interpreter that, while holding his daughter, he had accidentally bumped her head on a night stand just before placing the 1:00 a.m. 911 call. However, according to medical authorities, such an

accident would not have caused the baby to suffer a massive skull fracture, broken legs and catastrophic brain injury. Such severe injuries as those suffered by Annie Li, according to medical personnel, were consistent with the trauma of Shaken Baby Syndrome – in which a baby is repeatedly and violently shaken and with blunt force trauma to her head and body. Finally, it is charged that if Annie Li had received medical attention earlier, it could have resulted in her survival and that the lack of prompt medical attention contributed to her death.

The District Attorney said that Annie Li was declared brain dead on October 26, 2007, and life support was withdrawn two days later, at which time she died.

The investigation was conducted by Detective Matthew Degnan and other members of the of the New York City Police Department’s 109th Precinct Detective Squad under the supervision of Lieutenant Thomas Conforti, Commanding Officer; by Detective David Moser and other members of the NYPD’s Queens Homicide Squad under the supervision of Lieutenant John Perdoch; and by Detective John Phelan, of the NYPD’s Queens Special Victims Squad (at the Queens Child Advocacy Center) under the supervision of Sergeant Guisella Rodriguez and the overall command of Lieutenant Arthur Hall;

Assistant District Attorney Leigh Bishop, of the District Attorney’s Special Victims Bureau, is prosecuting the case, under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Marjory D. Fisher, Bureau Chief, and Kenneth M. Appelbaum and Lucinda C. Suarez, Deputy Bureau 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.

It should be noted that a 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.