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**GLENDALE NANNY SENTENCED TO EIGHT YEARS IN PRISON**  
**FOR ASSAULTING SEVEN-MONTH-OLD GIRL**

*Victim Severely Brain Damaged As A Result of Shaken Baby Trauma*

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that a Glendale nanny who assaulted an infant girl in her care has been sentenced to eight years in prison.

“At the heart of this case lies every parent’s worst nightmare – the person they entrusted to care for their baby instead is responsible for severely injuring their child and robbing her of a normal life,” said District Attorney Brown. “Shaken Baby Syndrome is the leading cause of child abuse deaths each year. Its victims are innocent and helpless children, often injured by those charged with protecting them. These tiny victims are often impaired for life or killed. Caregivers of children should heed the important message that these cases unfortunately bring to our attention – never, under any circumstances, shake a baby.”

District Attorney Brown identified the defendants as Alma Calderaro, 35, of 78-37 73<sup>rd</sup> Place in Glendale, Queens, was convicted earlier this month of first-degree assault and endangering the welfare of a child before Acting Queens Supreme Court Justice Robert McGann who imposed today’s determinate sentence of eight years in prison.

District Attorney Brown said that, according to testimony at Calderaro’s trial, on January 11, 2006, the defendant took the seven-month-old infant – who was in a non-responsive state and having difficulty breathing – to the emergency room at St. John’s Queens Hospital. The infant was then transferred later that evening to Long Island Jewish Hospital where medical personnel observed bleeding in the brain and eyes and extensive brain damage – injuries consistent with the non-accidental inflicted trauma of Shaken Baby Syndrome/Abusive Head Trauma which occurs when a baby is repeatedly and violently shaken.

At trial, the infant’s parents testified that their daughter was in perfect health up until the time she was dropped off at Calderaro’s residence. In taking the stand, Calderaro testified that the baby was gasping for air and that she shook the infant in order to revive her. However, medical experts testified that the defendant’s account of how the baby was injured was inconsistent with the nature and severity of the injuries she suffered. The child, who is now nearly four years old, has permanent brain damage.

Assistant District Attorney Leigh Bishop of the District Attorney’s Special Victims Bureau, prosecuted 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.

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Note to Editors: E-version of this press release posted at [www.queensda.org](http://www.queensda.org).