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BROOKLYN MAN CONVICTED OF MANSLAUGHTER
IN 2007 STABBING DEATH OF COUSIN'S BOYFRIEND

Faces Up To 25 Years In Prison

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that a Brooklyn man has been found guilty of manslaughter in the stabbing death of the 39-year-old boyfriend of his cousin.

District Attorney Brown said, "The jury's verdict holds the defendant accountable for his actions. It is likely that he will now spend a good portion of his life behind bars for senselessly killing a man following a verbal exchange between the victim and his girlfriend. Hopefully, the victim's family can find some degree of solace in this conviction."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Andre Jones, 41, of 41 Lott Avenue in the East New York section of Brooklyn. Jones, who has been held without bail since his arraignment in April 2007, was convicted yesterday evening of first-degree manslaughter and third-degree criminal possession of a weapon following a two-week jury trial before Queens Supreme Court Justice Gregory L. Lasak. The defendant faces up to 25 years in prison when sentenced on September 2, 2009.

District Attorney Brown said that, according to trial testimony, the victim, Jackie Halsey, 39, was arguing with his girlfriend inside a sixth-floor apartment located at 91-56 195th Street in Hollis, Queens, on the night of March 24, 2007, when Jones became enraged over something that was said and stabbed Halsey once in the chest. Halsey was taken to Mary Immaculate Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

The District Attorney said that Jones fled the scene but was located a month later in South Carolina. At the time, Jones made a statement in which he claimed that the victim was accidentally stabbed in the stomach while he (Jones) was cutting a pizza.

Jones's return to Queens County was expedited by Senior Assistant District Attorney Alix Kucker of the District Attorney's Extraditions Unit.

Assistant District Attorney Peter Lomp, of the District Attorney's Homicide Trial Bureau, prosecuted the case under the supervision of Brad A. Leventhal, Bureau Chief, and Jack Warsawsky, Deputy Bureau Chief, 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: Press release e-version posted at www.queensda.org.