



RICHARD A. BROWN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY
QUEENS COUNTY**
125-01 QUEENS BOULEVARD
KEW GARDENS, NEW YORK 11415-1568
718-286-6000

Release # 8-2009
www.queensda.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2009

CONTACT: KEVIN RYAN
HELEN PETERSON
MERIS CAMPBELL
(718) 286-6315

QUEENS TEENAGER CHARGED IN FIRST HOMICIDE OF 2009 IN QUEENS COUNTY
Defendant Faces 25 Years to Life in Prison

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that a South Ozone Park teenager has been charged in what is Queens County's first homicide in 2009 for the shooting death of a 33-year-old man in front of his home.

District Attorney Brown said, "Once again an illegal handgun is at the center of what, under normal circumstances, would have amounted to nothing more than a verbal dispute. As a result, a husband has been senselessly gunned down in front of his house and three very young girls will grow up without their father."

District Attorney Brown identified the defendant as Wade Cameron, 18, of 131-33 133rd Street in South Ozone Park, Queens. The defendant was arraigned today in Queens Criminal Court in Kew Gardens on charges of second-degree murder, first-degree manslaughter and second-degree criminal possession of a weapon. The defendant, who faces up to 25 years to life in prison if convicted, was ordered held on \$150,000 bail and to return to court on January 23, 2009.

The District Attorney said that, according to the criminal charges, the victim, Jagdesh Beni, was pulling into his driveway at 107-05 103rd Street on the afternoon of January 8, 2009, when an argument ensued between Mr. Beni and the defendant. Cameron allegedly then pulled out an unlicensed .22 caliber revolver and shot Mr. Beni once in the chest, fatally wounding him.

Assistant District Attorney Catherine O'Connell, of the District Attorney's Homicide Investigations Bureau, is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Peter T. Reese, Bureau Chief, and Peter J. McCormack III, 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.

It should be noted that a criminal complaint is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

#

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