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**QUEENS MAN SENTENCED TO 40 YEARS TO LIFE IN PRISON FOR MURDER
OF LIBERIAN DIPLOMAT'S WARD FOLLOWING ROAD RAGE INCIDENT**

Apprehended Following "America's Most Wanted" Airing of Case

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown today announced that a Queens man whose case was profiled on the television show 'America's Most Wanted' has been sentenced – for a second time – to forty years to life in prison for a 2002 road rage incident in Jamaica, Queens, that resulted in the shooting death of a Liberian diplomat's ward.

District Attorney Brown said, "The sentence meted out today is just punishment for a violent and senseless murder carried out with an illegal gun. I can only hope that this conviction and the lengthy prison sentence imposed brings some measure of closure and justice to the victim's family."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Oliver Berry, 29, of 115-31 158th Street in Jamaica, Queens, who was convicted earlier this month of second-degree murder, second-degree attempted murder, and second- and third-degree criminal possession of a weapon following a three-week jury trial. Queens Supreme Court Justice Richard L. Buchter, who presided at trial, sentenced Berry to the indeterminate term of 40 years to life in prison.

District Attorney Brown said that, according to trial testimony, Josiah Salley, 27, who grew up as a ward of Edwin F. Sele, the Liberian Deputy Ambassador to the United Nations, was driving on Guy R. Brewer Boulevard on the afternoon of July 16, 2002, when Berry, who was traveling in the opposite direction, made a left hand turn, cutting off Salley's white 1999 Honda Civic. Both cars pulled over and Berry got into a heated argument with Salley and his passenger, Korin Bush, 30. Bystanders eventually calmed the situation and Berry and the two men got back in their cars and drove away. Approximately an hour later, Salley drove past the same location and observed Berry standing on the sidewalk. Seeing Salley's vehicle, Berry pulled out a semiautomatic handgun and ran after the vehicle, firing seven times and striking Salley in the arm and chest, fatally wounding him. Bush, who was seated alongside Salley in the front seat was not harmed. Berry then fled the scene on foot.

The District Attorney said that the Berry case was profiled on the Fox television show, America's Most Wanted, on March 20, 2004. On May 5, 2004, a woman told police that she recognized Berry from the television show and gave them the address where Berry was living in Brooklyn. Police went to the address and found Berry hiding in a closet.

Berry was originally convicted of the crime in April 2005 and sentenced to forty years to life in prison, but he was granted a retrial in March 2008 after the New York State Appellate Division, Second Department, ruled that a portion of an investigating detective's testimony was inadmissible.

Assistant District Attorney Denise Tirino, of the District Attorney's Homicide Trials Bureau, prosecuted the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys 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 on www.queensda.org