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**STATE SENATOR INDICTED ON DOMESTIC ASSAULT CHARGES**

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown today announced that a Queens County grand jury has returned a six-count indictment charging New York State Senator Hiram Monserrate with assaulting his alleged girlfriend at his Jackson Heights apartment this past December.

The grand jury charged Monserrate, 41, with three counts of second-degree assault, a Class D felony, and three counts of third-degree assault, a Class A misdemeanor.

According to the charges, during the early morning hours of December 19, 2008, Monserrate assaulted Karla Giraldo, 29. Ms. Giraldo was treated at a local Queens hospital, where she received stitches to the area surrounding her left eye.

Monserrate is expected to be arraigned on the charges later this week in Queens County Supreme Court in Kew Gardens.

Monserrate was arrested on December 19, 2008, by patrol officers assigned to the New York City Police Department's 105<sup>th</sup> Precinct. An investigation was conducted by the NYPD's 115<sup>th</sup> Precinct's Detective Squad.

The case was presented to the grand jury by Assistant District Attorneys Scott E. Kessler, Bureau Chief of the District Attorney's Domestic Violence Bureau, and Johnnette G. Traill, Deputy Bureau Chief of the District Attorney's Appeals Bureau.

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

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**Note to Editors: Press release e-version posted on [www.queensda.org](http://www.queensda.org)**