



RICHARD A. BROWN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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

Release # 89-2009
www.queensda.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2009

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

QUEENS MAN SENTENCED TO 11 YEARS IN PRISON
FOR ATTEMPTING TO MURDER WIFE AS SHE HELD INFANT SON

*Wife Hospitalized With Broken Scissors In Neck, Infant Suffered Depressed Skull Fracture;
Victim Refused To Testify; Her Grand Jury Testimony Was Admitted Into Evidence*

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown today announced that a Jamaica, Queens, man who brutally stabbed his common law wife and caused a severe head injury to his five-month-old son in July 2006 has been sentenced to 11 years in prison.

District Attorney Brown said, "The sentence imposed today by the court is a major victory for victims of domestic violence. When the defendant pressured the victim not to cooperate with the prosecution, the victim's grand jury testimony was admitted into evidence and led to the defendant's conviction for attempting to murder his wife. Let this case serve as a warning that this office will not let defendants in domestic violence cases get away with pressuring victims not to cooperate. This case is another example of how it is that we are working to break the cycle of violence that affects so many families in our city."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Intaquab Ali, 32, of 103-25 177th Street in Jamaica. Ali, who has been held without bail since his arrest on August 1, 2006, was convicted in July 2008 of second-degree attempted murder, first-degree assault, aggravated criminal contempt, endangering the welfare of a child and fourth-degree criminal possession of a weapon. Queens Supreme Court Justice William M. Erlbaum, who presided at the two-week jury trial, imposed today's sentence of 11 years in prison.

The District Attorney said that, according to trial testimony, on June 6, 2006, Ali placed a machete against the neck of his wife, Nalenie Tilak, and demanded that she drop a child support case pending in Family Court or he would kill her. Ali was arrested a few weeks later and Tilak was granted a full order of protection. However, on July 23, 2006, Ali returned to Tilak's home and while she was holding their five-month-old son, Ethan, he began to hit her about the face and head with metal scissors. During the altercation, Ali struck his son about the head, causing a depressed skull fracture. As Tilak screamed at her husband to stop, he turned the scissors around and stabbed her about the eye and neck, ultimately causing the scissors to break and become lodged in the back of her neck.

According to further testimony at trial, Tilak required surgery to remove the scissors – four pieces of which were lodged in her neck, including a piece lodged in her vertebrae less than an inch

(MORE)

from an artery. The child Ethan, having suffered a depressed skull fracture, also required surgery. Tilak, according to the testimony, was pressured by Ali's family not to testify at trial. After a pre-trial hearing, however, it was determined that Tilak's grand jury testimony would be admissible at trial in her absence. The prosecutor who presented the case to the grand jury was also permitted to testify at trial about her interview with Tilak.

Assistant District Attorney Keshia J. Espinal, of the District Attorney's Domestic Violence Bureau, prosecuted the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Scott E. Kessler, Bureau Chief, Kelly E. Sessoms-Newton, Deputy Bureau Chief, and the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Major Crimes Charles A. Testagrossa and Deputy Executive Attorney for Major Crimes Daniel A. Saunders.

#

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

(MORE)