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Release # 97-2009
www.queensda.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2009

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EX-BOYFRIEND INDICTED FOR MURDER OF NYPD CRIMINOLOGIST

*Six-Count Indictment Charges Intentional Murder, Tampering With Physical Evidence
And Weapons Possession; Defendant Faces Life in Prison*

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown today announced that a Queens County grand jury has indicted Gary McGurk on charges of murdering his former girlfriend, Michelle Lee. Ms. Lee, who was employed as a civilian criminologist for the New York City Police Department, was discovered bound and stabbed to death in her Sunnyside apartment last month.

District Attorney Brown said, "The young woman had a bright and promising future which was abruptly cut short by her brutal and senseless murder, allegedly at the hands of the defendant. This case will be vigorously prosecuted to ensure that justice is served on behalf of the victim and her family."

The District Attorney said that McGurk, 23, of 48-56 58th Place in Woodside, Queens, is presently awaiting arraignment in Queens Supreme Court in Kew Gardens on a six-count indictment charging him with one count of second-degree murder, three counts of tampering with physical evidence and two counts of fourth-degree criminal possession of a weapon. McGurk, a student at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, faces up to 25 years to life in prison if convicted.

District Attorney Brown said that Ms. Lee's body was discovered by her roommate in their third-floor apartment at 45-23 41st Street in Sunnyside on the morning of Monday, April 27, 2009. Ms. Lee had been tied to the bed and repeatedly stabbed. Ms. Lee, who graduated from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, had been employed by the NYPD since September 2008 and was assigned to its Queens lab.

The investigation was conducted by the New York City Police Department's 108th Precinct Detective Squad, the Queens Homicide Squad and its Police Laboratory, and by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner of the City of New York.

Also assisting in the investigation were members of the Queens District Attorney's Office – namely, Executive Assistant District Attorney for Major Crimes Charles A. Testagrossa, Assistant District Attorney Peter T. Reese, Chief of the District Attorney's Homicide Investigations Bureau, and Assistant District Attorney George Kanellopoulos. They have been assigned to prosecute the case.

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