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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2009

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**U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION OFFICER CONVICTED**  
**IN FATAL SHOOTING OF FOREST HILLS REAL ESTATE BROKER**

*Defendant Faces Up To 15 Years In Prison*

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown today announced that a United States Customs and Border Protection Officer formerly assigned to John F. Kennedy International Airport has been found guilty of manslaughter in the shooting death of a Forest Hills real estate broker outside the officer's residence in June 2008.

District Attorney Brown said, "The defendant has been convicted by a jury of his peers of recklessly drawing his weapon absent an imminent threat and taking an innocent life. Sadly, this case is a grim lesson why guns and alcohol are a lethal mixture. The defendant's senseless act warrants that he now serve serious prison time."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Erik Alke, 43, of 72-07 Kessel Street in Forest Hills, Queens. A Queens County jury heard ten days of testimony and deliberated for approximately an hour today before finding Alke guilty as charged of second-degree manslaughter. Acting Queens Supreme Court Justice Robert McGann, who presided at trial, set sentencing for November 9, 2009. Alke, who has been on modified leave since the incident, faces up to fifteen years in prison.

District Attorney Brown said that, according to trial testimony, Alke, who had been drinking at the time, recklessly fired his .38 caliber revolver on the afternoon of June 26, 2008, striking Adrian Moldovan, a real estate agent, in the chest and killing him. At the time, Moldovan, 50, was helping his friend, Alke's landlord, build a backyard patio at the Kessel Street address.

Deputy Executive Assistant District Attorney for Major Crimes Daniel A. Saunders prosecuted the case under the supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Major Crimes Charles A. Testagrossa.

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