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Release #160-2009
www.queensda.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2009

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**BROOKLYN RESIDENT SENTENCED TO 25 YEARS TO LIFE FOR MURDER
OF QUEENS PAWNSHOP OWNER DURING BOTCHED ROBBERY**

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that a Brooklyn man has been sentenced to 25 years to life in prison for the fatal shooting of a Richmond Hill pawnshop owner during an attempted robbery at the store in January 2006.

District Attorney Brown said, “The defendant was convicted earlier this year of murdering Richard Schoenfeld, a well-known and well-liked businessman in the Richmond Hill community. Armed with a gun, the defendant entered the pawnshop – under the pretext of wanting to pawn a pair of earrings – and attempted to rob the store. During the course of the robbery, the defendant fatally shot the store owner. The defendant has now been held accountable for his crime and will serve a lengthy prison term.”

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Demetrious Greene, 32, of 647 Watkins Street in Brooklyn. The defendant was convicted in June of second-degree murder, first-degree attempted robbery and second- and third-degree criminal possession of a weapon following a jury trial before Queens Supreme Court Justice Gregory L. Lasak who imposed today’s indeterminate sentence of 25 years to life in prison.

District Attorney Brown said that, according to trial testimony, Greene entered Rich-Atlantic Gold and Silver Exchange, located at 118-20 Atlantic Avenue, on the evening of January 19, 2006, and attempted to rob the store’s owner, Richard Schoenfeld, 40, of Merrick, Long Island. During the course of the robbery Greene shot Mr. Schoenfeld twice, fatally wounding him, before fleeing.

Assistant District Attorney Shawn Clark, 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 at www.queensda.org.