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BROOKLYN MAN CHARGED IN FATAL QUEENS HIT-AND-RUN
Defendant Faces Up To Four Years In Prison If Convicted

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown today announced that a 53-year-old Brooklyn man has been charged with fleeing the scene of a Middle Village traffic encounter earlier this week in which a pedestrian was seriously injured and died less than an hour later.

District Attorney Brown said, "The defendant is accused of hitting a pedestrian and then attempting to evade justice by fleeing the scene. As a result of his alleged actions, the defendant now faces serious criminal charges."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Raul Reyes, 53, of 109 Wilson Avenue in the Bushwick section of Brooklyn. Reyes was arraigned last night before Queens Criminal Court Judge Donna Golia on a criminal complaint charging him with leaving the scene of an incident without reporting serious physical injury. Reyes, who faces up to four years in prison if convicted, was ordered held on \$30,000 bond/\$15,000 cash bail and to return to court on February 25, 2015

District Attorney Brown said that, according to the charges, Reyes was driving his 2007 gray van eastbound on Metropolitan Avenue at approximately 7:50 p.m. on February 3, 2015, when he encountered Kamil Gorski, 36, near 62nd Street standing in the roadway on the double yellow lines separating the eastbound and westbound lanes of traffic. It is alleged that Reyes's vehicle struck Mr. Gorski, causing him to fall to the ground, and that Reyes continued to drive eastbound on Metropolitan Avenue without stopping or reporting the incident. A second vehicle then allegedly struck Mr. Gorski as he lay in the roadway.

When EMS workers arrived at the scene, Mr. Gorski was unresponsive and bleeding from the head and appeared to have suffered blunt force trauma. He was transported to Elmhurst General Hospital where he pronounced dead at approximately 8:31 p.m. on February 3, 2015.

In investigating the matter, the New York City Police Department's Highway District, Collision Investigation Squad, located Reyes at his Brooklyn residence, where he allegedly admitted that he was operating his van at the time and place of the incident and that he was aware that he struck something with his driver's side view mirror and that he believed he had clipped the side mirror of a small truck traveling in the opposite direction and that he continued driving away from the scene of the collision without stopping to provide his personal information, such as his name and address, driver's license or insurance carrier, or notifying the police of the collision.

Assistant District Attorney Kristin J. Papadopoulos, of the District Attorney's Homicide Investigation Bureau is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys John W. Kosinski, Chief of the District Attorney's Vehicular Homicide Unit, Peter T. Reese, Homicide Investigations Bureau Chief, and Peter J. McCormack III and Richard B. Schaeffer, Deputy Bureau Chiefs, 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.

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

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