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BROOKLYN WOMAN INDICTED FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER
IN ALLEGED POISONING WITH CHEESECAKE OF QUEENS LOOK-ALIKE

*Defendant Also Allegedly Stole Victim's Picture Identification, Cash And Jewelry;
Faces Up to 25 Years in Prison If Convicted*

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that a Queens County grand jury has indicted a 42-year-old Sheepshead Bay woman for attempted murder, burglary and other charges for allegedly poisoning a Queens woman - who resembled the defendant - with cheesecake and then stealing her identification and other property in August of 2016.

District Attorney Brown said, "This is a bizarre and twisted crime that could have resulted in the death of a Queens woman, whose only fault was that she shared similar features with the defendant. Offering a gift of a cheesecake, the defendant is alleged to have laced the dessert with a Russian drug and presented it to the unsuspecting victim. Luckily, the Queens woman survived the poisoning. The defendant has been apprehended and now faces a long term of incarceration."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Viktoria Nasyrova, 42, of Voorhies Avenue in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn. The defendant was arraigned on a 10-count indictment charging her with second-degree attempted murder, first-degree burglary, first-degree attempted assault, second-degree assault, first-degree reckless endangerment, first-degree unlawful imprisonment, third-degree grand larceny, petit larceny and fifth-degree criminal possession of stolen property. Nasyrova was arraigned yesterday before Acting Queens Supreme Court Justice Peter Vallone Jr., who ordered the defendant held without bail. Nasyrova's next court date is May 25, 2018. If convicted, the defendant faces up to 25 years in prison.

District Attorney Brown said that, according to the indictment, on August 28, 2016, the defendant visited the Forest Hills home of the then-35-year-old victim bearing a gift of a cheesecake. The victim and the defendant resembled one another - both have dark hair, the same skin complexion and speak Russian. The Queens woman ate the dessert given to her by the defendant and afterwards began to feel sick and laid down. Before passing out, the woman's last memory is of seeing the defendant sitting beside her inside her home. The following day, the victim's friend discovered her unconscious in her bed, dressed in lingerie with pills scattered around her body - as if the woman had attempted to kill herself. The victim was taken to a hospital for treatment.

Continuing, the District Attorney said, according to the indictment, when the woman was discharged from the hospital and returned home, she realized that her passport and employment authorization card were missing, along with a gold ring and cash. Law enforcement agents with Homeland Security tested pieces of cheesecake that remained in its container and confirmed the

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sweet treat was laced with phenazepam. The pills found on the floor when the victim was discovered were tested by the Federal Bureau of Investigations and was confirmed to be phenazepam, as well.

District Attorney Brown said, according to the charges, when the defendant was arrested on March 20, 2017, in Brooklyn, the police recovered the victim's ring, passport and employment card.

The investigation was conducted by Detective Kevin Rodgers of the New York City Police Department's 112th Precinct Detective Squad.

The District Attorney would like to thank agents of the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Bureau of Investigations for their assistance in this case.

Assistant District Attorney Amy M. Palumbo, of District Attorney Brown's Kew Gardens II Bureau, is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Daniel M. Sullivan, Bureau Chief, Mark Osnowitz, and Shawn Clark, Deputy Bureau Chiefs, Maryam A. Hadden, Supervisor and under the overall supervision of Senior Executive Assistant District Attorney for Trials James C. Quinn and Deputy Executive Assistant District Attorney for Trials Laura M. Henigman.

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