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NFL LINEBACKER CHARGED WITH ATTACKING NYPD SERGEANT
AFTER FARE BEATING ARREST

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown today announced that a National Football League Detroit Lions linebacker has been charged with assaulting an NYPD Sergeant inside the 115th police precinct in Queens, following an arrest for allegedly refusing to pay a \$32 fare for a taxi ride.

District Attorney Brown said, “The defendant is accused of refusing to pay a cabbie who drove the player from Manhattan to his hotel in Queens. The defendant then allegedly attacked an NYPD sergeant during the issuance of a desk appearance ticket for the fare beating charge.”

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Trevor Bates, 25, of Westbrook, Maine. The defendant is being held pending arraignment on a criminal complaint charging him with second-degree assault, obstructing governmental administration, theft of services and resisting arrest. If convicted, Bates faces between probation and up to seven years in prison.

The District Attorney said that, according to the charges, on Saturday morning at approximately 1:30 a.m., the police responded to a call from a yellow taxi driver. The driver was at the Hampton Inn, located at 102-40 Ditmars Blvd., and stated that his passenger did not want to pay his \$32 fare. The defendant was placed under arrest and transported back to the 115th police precinct. While at the precinct, the defendant was informed that as long as there were no outstanding warrants, he would receive a DAT (desk appearance ticket) and then be allowed to leave. At which time, Bates refused to be printed and became increasingly agitated. As NYPD Sergeant James O’Brien attempted to calm the defendant down, the defendant punched him in the face and need to be tased in order to subdue him.

Sgt. O’Brien was transported to a local Queens hospital where he was informed that he had a concussion as a result of the punch and required three stitches over his left eye.

Assistant District Attorney Shanise O’Neill, Section Chief of District Attorney Brown’s Intake Bureau along with Joshua Mandell, Bureau Chief, are prosecuting the case 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.

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Note to Editors: An e-version of this press release is posted on the QDA website at www.queensda.org.