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**D.A. BROWN: QUEENS MAN SENTENCED TO SEVEN YEARS IN PRISON  
FOR ASSAULT ON POLICE OFFICER**

*Bit Police Lieutenant On Left Hand*

\_\_\_\_\_ Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that a Jamaica, Queens, man has been sentenced to seven years in prison for the April 2005 assault on a police officer in which he bit the officer on the hand.

District Attorney Brown said, "The defendant, who was successfully prosecuted for assaulting a New York City Police Officer, has now been sentenced to a lengthy prison term for savagely biting the officer. This case is a reminder of the demanding and dangerous challenges that police officers face each day in protecting the public."

District Attorney Brown identified the defendant as Roderick McClain, 41, of 104-14 Waltham Street in Jamaica, Queens. The defendant was found guilty on April 27, 2006, of second-degree assault and resisting arrest after a four-day trial by a jury of six men and six women that deliberated for three hours before returning its verdict before Queens Supreme Court Justice Arthur J. Cooperman. The defendant was sentenced earlier today to a determinate term of seven years in prison.

The District Attorney said that, according to the trial testimony, between 12:51 and 12:59 a.m. on April 10, 2005, the defendant was observed walking down South Road and 157<sup>th</sup> Street in Jamaica with two very large bags by Lieutenant Paul Galli and Sergeant Michael Cantatore, of the New York City Police Department's 103<sup>rd</sup> Precinct, who were operating an unmarked vehicle in plainclothes and responding to a radio call of a robbery of a livery cab. When Officers Galli and Cantatore exited their vehicle to speak to the defendant, he dropped the bags and punched Sergeant Cantatore in the face. At this point, Lieutenant Galli attempted to handcuff the defendant but he resisted by flailing his arms around in a wild manner and biting Lieutenant Galli's pinky finger, causing bleeding and substantial pain.

The District Attorney further said that the defendant was subdued and arrested by two NYPD officers who were patrolling the area in a police patrol vehicle also in response to the livery cab robbery. Lieutenant Galli was treated at a local Queens hospital for his injuries sustained in the incident.

Assistant District Attorney Gretchen K. Robinson of the District Attorney's KG I Trial Bureau prosecuted the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Francesco Catarisano, Bureau Chief, Robin D. Leopold and Raymond E. Scheer, Deputy Bureau Chiefs, and the overall supervision of Senior Executive Assistant District Attorney for Trials James C. Quinn and Deputy Executive Assistant District Attorneys for Trials John H. Larsen and Robert J. Masters.

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