



RICHARD A. BROWN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY
QUEENS COUNTY
125-01 QUEENS BOULEVARD
KEW GARDENS, NEW YORK 11415-1568
718-286-6000**

Release #231-2006
www.queensda.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2006

CONTACT: PRESS OFFICE
(718) 286-6315

D.A. BROWN: FLUSHING FATHER CHARGED
WITH ASSAULTING TWO-MONTH-OLD DAUGHTER

Allegedly Shook Baby, Causing Brain Damage; Faces Up to 25 Years in Prison

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that a Flushing man has been charged with assaulting his infant daughter by striking the child repeatedly across the face, shaking her and biting her on the leg with enough force to leave teeth marks. The child is presently hospitalized and apparently suffering brain damage.

District Attorney Brown said, "According to the charges, the defendant in a fit of rage shook, slapped and bit his two-month-old baby daughter, causing irreparable injury and forever altering her future."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Sukni Yoon, 31, who lives at 43-19 165th Street in Flushing, with his fiancée, Sooja Hong, 28, and their two-month-old daughter, Hyewan Yoon. Yoon, who is presently unemployed, is being held pending arraignment in Queens Criminal Court on charges of first- and second-degree assault, first-degree reckless endangerment and endangering the welfare of a child. If convicted, he faces up to 25 years in prison.

District Attorney Brown said that, according to the charges, on the afternoon of Monday, October 30, 2006, the defendant was home alone babysitting his two-month old daughter when the baby began crying. Angered by the crying, the defendant allegedly repeatedly struck the baby across the face, shook her and bit her on the leg.

The District Attorney said that the infant was admitted to Cornell Medical Center where after suffering numerous seizures she remains in critical condition.

The investigation was conducted by Detective Patricia Rodriguez of the New York City Police Department's Queens Special Victims Squad located at the Queens Child Advocacy Center under the supervision of Lieutenant Patrick Baricelli, Squad Commander, and Sergeant Guisella Rodriguez.

The Queens Child Advocacy Center is located at 112-25 Queens Boulevard, Forest Hills, Queens, and is a unique collaboration of governmental and nonprofit organizations working together under one roof to lessen the trauma of abused children and to ensure that each child is given the immediate, sensitive response he/she needs. The teams include staff and representatives from Safe Horizon, the District Attorney's Office, the New York City Administration for Children's Services, the New York City Police Department and various medical providers.

Assistant District Attorney Frank P. DeGaetano, Supervisor of the District Attorney's Special Victims Bureau, is prosecuting the case, under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Marjory D. Fisher, Bureau Chief, and Kenneth M. Appelbaum and Lucinda C. Suarez, 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 complaint is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

#

Note to Editors: E-version of this press release posted at www.queensda.org.