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**D.A. BROWN: PENNSYLVANIA MAN SENTENCED TO 19 YEARS IN PRISON
IN SHOOTING DEATH OF LONGTIME FRIEND**

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown announced today that a Pennsylvania man has been sentenced to 19 years in prison for the March 2005 shooting death of his friend inside the victim's Elmhurst home.

District Attorney Brown said, "The defendant was involved in a heated argument over personal property with his friend when he pulled out an illegal handgun and intentionally shot and killed his friend. His actions were senseless and have now resulted in his being sentenced to serve a justifiably lengthy prison term."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Roberto Polanco, 27, of 645 Mulberry Street in Reading, Pennsylvania. The defendant, who is unemployed, pleaded guilty on January 11, 2007 to first-degree manslaughter before Queens Supreme Court Justice Randall T. Eng who imposed today's determinate sentence of 19 years in prison.

District Attorney Brown said that in pleading guilty the defendant admitted that, just before midnight on March 15, 2005, he was arguing about personal property with the victim, Edwin Perez, 26, inside his apartment at 81-11 Pettit Avenue in Elmhurst, when he pulled out an illegal handgun, ordered Perez to get down on the floor and shot him twice in the back of the head, fatally wounding him. The defendant then fled the location and was arrested two days later.

The investigation was conducted by Detective Fernando Sanchez of the New York City Police Department's 110th Precinct Detective Squad and Detective Billy Milan of The NYPD's Queens Homicide Squad.

Assistant District Attorney Shawn Clark of the District Attorney's Homicide Trials Bureau prosecuted the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Brad Leventhal, Bureau Chief and Jack Warsawsky, Deputy Bureau Chief 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.

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Note to Editors: Press release e-version posted at www.queensda.org



Roberto Polanco, 27