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QUEENS MAN INDICTED ON MURDER CHARGES IN DEATH OF GIRLFRIEND

Defendant Faces Up to 25 Years-to-Life in Prison if Convicted

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz announced today that a Queens County grand jury has indicted Shmuel Levine, 34, on murder charges for allegedly beating his girlfriend to death last Monday. Her body was found outside her apartment building, beneath her 6th floor window.

District Attorney Katz said, “This woman’s last moments of life were brutal. The defendant allegedly resorted to vicious, physical violence to resolve a quarrel. The defendant has been charged accordingly and is in custody.”

Levine, of Beach 135th Street in Rockaway Park, is expected to be arraigned next week before Queens Supreme Court Justice Richard L. Buchter on the single-count indictment charging him with murder in the second degree. If convicted, the defendant faces up to 25 years-to-life in prison.

District Attorney Katz said that, according to the charges, around 2:30 p.m. on Monday, October 26, 2020, Levine became embroiled in a verbal argument with the victim, Danielle Marrano, 37, inside her Ocean Promenade apartment in Rockaway Park. The dispute escalated into a physical confrontation, with the defendant allegedly putting the victim in a chokehold. Ms. Marrano’s body was discovered mangled on the ground several floors below her window by responding police officers.

The victim was immediately transported to a local Queens hospital where she was later pronounced dead. The results of the woman’s autopsy indicated Ms. Marrano suffered at least four fractures to her skull that contributed to her death. At least two of the fractures were inconsistent with injuries sustained from a fall.

Inside the apartment, police found hair that appeared to match Ms. Marrano’s and also observed a large dent in the wall, according to the charges.

The investigation was conducted by detectives of the New York City Police Department’s 100th Precinct Detective Squad.

Assistant District Attorneys Jonathan Selkove and Bryan Kotowski of the District Attorney’s Homicide Bureau is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Brad A. Leventhal, Bureau Chief, Peter J. McCormack III, Senior Deputy Bureau Chief, John W. Kosinski and

Kenneth A. Appelbaum, Deputy Bureau Chiefs and under the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Major Crimes Daniel A. Saunders.

Criminal complaints and indictments are accusations. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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Note to Editors: Archived press releases are available at www.queensda.org.

