Release #9-2022 twitter@QueensDAKatz



718.286.6000

WWW.QUEENSDA.ORG

QUEENS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 125-01 QUEENS BOULEVARD KEW GARDENS, NEW YORK 11415-1568



Melinda Katz District Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2022

CONTACT: PRESS OFFICE (718) 286-6315 QDACommunications@queensda.org

JURY CONVICTS QUEENS MAN OF MURDER IN STABBING DEATH OF HIS PREGNANT GIRLFRIEND

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz announced today that Anthony Hobson, 51, was convicted yesterday after a jury trial of murder and other crimes in the February 2019 knife attack on his girlfriend, Jennifer Irigoyen, in Ridgewood Queens.

District Attorney Katz said, "The defendant has been convicted and held responsible for taking the life of a woman, who was the mother of a young son and was also approximately 12 weeks pregnant. This was a horrific crime – the victim was stabbed repeatedly inside the stairway of her apartment building. The defendant now faces a lengthy prison sentence from the Court."

Yesterday a jury found Hobson, of 64th Avenue in Rego Park, Queens, guilty of murder, tampering with evidence and criminal possession of a weapon following a two-week-long trial. Queens Supreme Court Justice Michael B. Aloise, who presided at trial, set sentencing for February 17, 2022. At that time, Hobson faces up to 25 years-to-life in prison, with additional possible time for the tampering with evidence conviction.

District Attorney Katz said, according to trial testimony, on February 3, 2019, at approximately 1 a.m., on the third floor of a residential building on Myrtle Avenue, a neighbor heard the victim screaming "Help! Help! He's trying to kill the baby!" The neighbor ran into the hallway and saw the defendant dragging Ms. Irigoyen, a 35-year-old real estate agent, into the stairwell. The witness saw Hobson – using what appeared to be a kitchen steak knife – repeatedly stab the victim.

The DA said Ms. Irigoyen suffered puncture wounds to her neck, chest and abdomen, along with numerous other injuries. She was transported to an area hospital where she was pronounced dead.

Hobson left the scene with the murder weapon, which was never recovered. The defendant fled to Pennsylvania but turned himself in to law enforcement five days after the murder.

Assistant District Attorney Rachel E. Buchter, Chief of the District Attorney's Felony Trial Bureau III, prosecuted the case with the assistance of Assistant District Attorney Bryan Kotowski, under the supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Major Crimes Daniel Saunders.

Note to Editors: Archived press releases are available at <u>www.queensda.org</u>.