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**JURY CONVICTS DEFENDANT OF ASSAULT IN THE FIRST DEGREE**  
**FOR STABBING MAN WITH BROKEN BOTTLE FOLLOWING MINOR CAR ACCIDENT**

*Defendant Faces Up to 25 Years in Prison at Sentencing*

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz announced today that Robert Finley, 46, has been convicted at trial of assault in the first degree for stabbing a man in the face with a broken glass bottle. A minor traffic incident escalated into a near-deadly altercation when the victim stepped out of his vehicle after his car was struck by the door of the defendant's automobile in November 2020.

District Attorney Katz said, "A minor vehicle collision escalated to brutal violence when the defendant stabbed the victim in the face as he attempted to inspect the inconsequential damage. Following a two-week-long trial, a jury has determined that the defendant is guilty of assault in the first degree. We hope this verdict provides the victim with some measure of peace as he continues to recover from sustained injuries."

A jury found Finley, of Tilden Avenue in East Flatbush, Brooklyn, guilty late yesterday of assault in the first degree following a two-week-long trial. Queens Supreme Court Justice Michelle Johnson, who presided at trial, set the defendant's sentencing for July 11, 2022. At that time, Finley faces up to 25 years in prison.

District Attorney Katz said, according to trial records, the victim was driving past the defendant's vehicle near Liverpool Street and 109<sup>th</sup> Avenue when Finley allegedly opened his car door and struck the other automobile. The victim pulled over, got out of his car to inspect the damage and that's when Finley approached with a glass bottle. The defendant slammed the bottle on the man's head, then used shards of the broken glass to stab the victim in the cheek and mouth.

DA Katz added that then turned around and got back into his vehicle and fled the scene.

The victim had deep lacerations to his face that required approximately 150 stitches and still has the scars on his face, as a result of the attack.

Assistant District Attorney Thomas Salmon, of the DA's Career Criminal and Major Crimes Bureau, is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Shawn Clark, Bureau Chief, Michael Whitney, Deputy Bureau Chief, and under the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney of Major Crimes Daniel Saunders.

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