Release#155-2022 twitter@QueensDAKatz



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



Melinda Katz District Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2022

CONTACT: PRESS OFFICE (718) 286-6315 <u>QDACommunications@queensda.org</u>

TWO DEFENDANTS PLEAD GUILTY TO SEX TRAFFICKING MINOR VICTIMS AT JAMAICA HOTEL Defendants Held Victims Against Their Will and Forced Them into Sexual Acts

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz announced today that Tyrone "Angel" Miles, 32, and Bryant "Dollaz" Lowery, 24, have pleaded guilty to sex trafficking of a child for forcing female victims to have sex with strangers for cash at the JFK Inn Hotel in Jamaica, Queens. An escape attempt by one of the trafficking victims in June 2020 revealed the defendants' ongoing criminal activities.

District Attorney Katz said, "Holding accountable those who choose to torment and degrade their victims for profit is why our Human Trafficking Bureau is so important. In pleading guilty, these two defendants have accepted responsibility for forcing underage victims to perform sexual acts to line their own pockets. I commend the young complainants for their bravery, and both defendants will now face prison time as punishment for their criminal actions."

Miles, 32, of 110th Avenue in Jamaica, Queens pleaded guilty to two counts of sex trafficking of a child yesterday before Supreme Court Justice Peter Vallone, Jr. Lowery, 24, of 141st Avenue in Springfield Gardens, Queens, also pleaded guilty to one count of sex trafficking of a child and one count of sex trafficking before Supreme Court Justice Peter Vallone, Jr. Justice Vallone indicated that he will order Miles to serve 7 years in jail followed by 10 years post-release supervision and Lowey to serve 6 years in jail followed by 10 years post-release supervision at sentencing on November 16, 2022. The defendants will also be required to register as sex offenders. Third defendant Khalil Fryer pleaded guilty to kidnapping and sex trafficking in April 2021 and is currently serving a sentence of five years in prison and will also be required to register as a sex offender.

According to Court records, defendants Miles and Lowery held two victims, ages 16 and 17 years, at the JFK Inn Hotel on South Conduit Avenue in Jamaica, Queens between June 5, 2020 and June 12, 2020 and threatened them with physical harm unless they participated in sexual acts in exchange for money. Defendant Miles threatened to kill the 16-year-old if she did not comply and instructed her to tell customers she was an adult. The defendants kept the girls in separate rooms at the motel to meet customers paying for sex. The defendants monitored the victims in the motel room to prevent them from leaving and collected all the money. The 16-year old was able to escape when defendant Miles briefly left her alone and she fled to a commercial establishment and contacted her family.

Continuing, defendants Fryer and Lowery held another victim, aged 19, against her will at the same hotel beginning June 19, 2020. The victim appealed to a customer for help and managed to escape from her hotel room. Defendant Fryer tracked down the victim, forced her into a car then punched and kicked her in retaliation for leaving. On the following day, one of the victims was able to flag down a police officer for assistance.

The investigations were conducted by Detective Judith Moreno, New York City Police Department's Human Trafficking Squad, under the supervision of Sergeant Robert Duplessis, Lieutenant Amy Capogna, Captain Thomas Milano and under the overall supervision of Inspector Carlos Ortiz.

Assistant District Attorney Kiran Cheema, of the District Attorney's Human Trafficking Bureau, prosecuted the cases, under the supervision of Assistant District Attorney Jessica Melton, Bureau Chief, Assistant District Attorney Tara DiGregorio, Assistant Deputy Bureau Chief, and under the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Investigations Gerard A. Brave.

#

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

