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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**QUEENS MAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS IN PRISON FOR RAPE AND ATTEMPTED MURDER OF WOMAN ON ROOFTOP IN 2023**

*Attack Occurred in Broad Daylight*

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz announced today that Jerson Vasquez was sentenced to 15 years in prison for rape, attempted murder and another charge for the violent sexual assault of a woman on a Jamaica rooftop in August 2023. The defendant answered an online prostitution advertisement and lured the victim to the location.

District Attorney Katz said: “A dangerous sexual predator, who carried out a brutal attack against a woman, has been sentenced to 15 years in prison and will be required to register as a sex offender upon his release. We thank the brave victim for coming forward and hope the sentencing provides a measure of comfort as she continues to heal.”

Vasquez, 25, of 170<sup>th</sup> Street in Jamaica, pleaded guilty in January to attempted murder in the second degree, rape in the first degree and patronizing a person for prostitution in the third degree. Supreme Court Justice Michelle Johnson today sentenced him to 15 years in prison with 10 years post-release supervision. He also will be required to register as a sex offender upon his release.

District Attorney Katz said that, according to court records, on August 13, 2023, Vasquez responded to a Facebook Marketplace ad and asked the woman to meet him at an address on 93<sup>rd</sup> Avenue in Jamaica. She arrived at approximately 5:30 p.m. and was directed to meet him on the rooftop.

At the top of the building Vasquez gave the victim \$150 and the pair proceeded to have intercourse. The defendant then started choking the woman and slammed her head into a concrete wall, and then took his money back. The victim was then punched in the face and as the defendant sat on top of her, he repeatedly slammed her head into the floor and wrapped his hands around her neck applying pressure.

Vasquez took the woman’s cellphone and left her on the rooftop. Video surveillance recovered from the crime scene shows Vasquez exiting the location with what appeared to be blood on his neck and hand.

The victim was admitted to an area hospital for a laceration to the back of her head that required staples to close. The woman had extensive swelling on her head, face and neck.

Assistant District Attorneys Tara DiGregorio, Deputy Chief of the District Attorney’s Human Trafficking Bureau, and Kiran Cheema, also of the DA’s Human Trafficking Bureau, prosecuted the case, under the supervision of Assistant District Attorney Jessica Melton, Bureau Chief, and under the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney of Investigations Gerard Brave.

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**Note to Editors: Press release e-version posted on [www.queensda.org](http://www.queensda.org)**

