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SOUTH JAMAICA MAN INDICTED FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER FOR STABBING NEPHEW

Defendant Also Allegedly Attacked Sister's Boyfriend; Faces up to 25 Years in Prison, If Convicted

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz announced that Rashaun Donovan was indicted for attempted murder, assault and other crimes for stabbing his nephew and his sister's boyfriend while visiting family members inside their South Ozone Park home on October 23.

District Attorney Katz said: "As alleged, Rashaun Donovan was visiting family members when, unprovoked, he stabbed his nephew with a kitchen knife. The defendant then ran to another floor and stabbed his sister's boyfriend. The defendant has now been indicted by a grand jury for this stabbing spree."

Donovan, 48, of South Jamaica, was arraigned yesterday in Queens Supreme Court before Judge Toni Cimino on a seven-count indictment charging him with attempted murder in the second degree, two counts of attempted assault in the first degree, two counts of assault in the second degree and two counts of criminal possession of a weapon in the fourth degree. The defendant was remanded and is due back in court December 15. If convicted, he faces up to 25 years in prison.

DA Katz said that, according to the charges and investigation, on October 23, Donovan was visiting a home owned by his parents on 149th Street in South Ozone Park. The property is a multi-generational residence occupied by members of the defendant's family.

At approximately 9:38 p.m., Donovan broke down the door to his 23-year-old nephew's bedroom while holding two kitchen knives. Donovan allegedly swung one of the knives at this nephew, stabbing him in the left shoulder.

The defendant then knocked on the bedroom door of his 57-year-old brother-in-law while holding the two kitchen knives. Donovan allegedly tried to pull his brother-in-law down the stairs. Donovan's nephew was standing behind him on the staircase and the two wrestled. The defendant allegedly swung the knives toward his nephew, and the nephew punched Donovan in the face, causing him to retreat down the stairs.

Donovan then went to another floor in the house and stabbed his sister's 39-year-old boyfriend on his left shoulder and in the right bicep area.

Assistant District Attorney Dylan Nesturrick of the District Attorney's Career Criminal Major Crimes Bureau is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Michael Whitney, Bureau Chief, and Timothy Regan, Deputy Chief, and under the overall supervision of Chief Assistant District Attorney Shawn Clark.

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.