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For Immediate Release  
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**BRONX MAN SENTENCED TO 23 YEARS TO LIFE IN PRISON  
FOR DEADLY SHOOTING  
Past Disputes Preceded the Killing**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a 36-year-old Bronx man has been sentenced to 23 years to life in prison for fatally shooting a 21-year-old man outside of a Mott Haven bar.

District Attorney Clark said, "These senseless shootings must stop, and hopefully the punishment this defendant received will send the message that a high price will be paid for taking a life in the Bronx."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Benjamin Vializ, 36, of 1366 White Plains Road near Parkchester in the Bronx, was sentenced on Monday, May 9, 2016, in Bronx Supreme Court by Bronx Supreme Court Justice Alvin Yearwood to 23 years to life in prison. Vializ was convicted by a jury on March 9, 2016 of second-degree Murder after a three week trial.

According to trial testimony, in the early morning hours of June 2, 2013, Vializ was outside of the El Patron bar, where earlier that night he had been denied entry by a bouncer who had felt a revolver on Vializ' waist. He later was admitted without the gun and got kicked out.

Rolando Delacruz, who had previous disputes with Vializ, saw the man pacing back and forth outside the bar and called for his nephew, Ivan Martinez, to join him in case he needed help. After Martinez had arrived and gotten into a fight with another man, Vializ approached Martinez and, without saying a word, shot him once in the chest at close range with his revolver before fleeing the scene. Martinez died at Lincoln Hospital from his injuries.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Newton Mendys of the Rackets Bureau.

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