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For Immediate Release
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**BRONX MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO SEX TRAFFICKING AND WILL BE
DESIGNATED SEX OFFENDER
Also Pleads Guilty to Slashing Inmate in Rikers Island: Faces Up to 11 Years**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a 35-year-old Bronx man has pleaded guilty to sex trafficking related to a prostitution business he operated with his cousin, as well as an assault that took place while he was jailed in Rikers Island.

District Attorney Clark said, "This defendant forced a runaway girl into prostitution on the streets of Hunts Point, and in Brooklyn and Queens, by instilling fear of physical injury. Sex trafficking is a despicable offense and this victim is slowly trying to recover from her exploitation.

"The defendant also pleaded guilty to slashing an inmate while he was incarcerated, contributing to the culture of brutality at Rikers Island that we have been battling for the last eight months."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Shakiem Washington, 35, of 374 East 209th Street, pleaded guilty yesterday, August 15, 2016, to Sex Trafficking and second-degree Assault before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Alvin Yearwood. Washington faces 2 1/3 to 7 years in prison for Sex Trafficking, and four years for Assault, to run consecutively, when he is sentenced on September 1, 2016. He will also be designated a sex offender and receive three years post-release supervision.

According to the investigation, Washington's cousin Daniel Washington found the girl, then 18 years old, in early 2011 in Atlantic City, where another pimp had abandoned her. Daniel Washington handed her over to Washington, who forced her to work as a prostitute until June, 2011. An investigation was conducted by Bronx Vice Detective Rose Muckenthaler.

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On August 10, 2015, while in the George R. Vierno Center on Rikers Island, Washington participated in an attack with three other inmates on another inmate, slashing him in the face with a sharp object.

The cases were prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ilya Kharkover of the Criminal Enterprise Bureau and Assistant District Attorney Lauren DiChiara of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, under the supervision of James Goward, Chief of the Criminal Enterprise Bureau.

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