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For Immediate Release
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CORRECTION OFFICERS PLEAD GUILTY TO ATTEMPTING TO COVER UP BEATING OF INMATE

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that three New York City Department of Correction Officers—including a former Captain—have pleaded guilty to covering up an assault on an inmate in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy in 2012.

District Attorney Clark said, “With tensions running high in the aftermath of a catastrophic storm, these Correction Officers covered up an assault on an inmate and were ultimately caught. Our office will continue to pursue all crimes on Rikers Island.”

District Attorney Clark said the defendants, Moises Simancas, 40, Tyrone Wint, 31, and April Jackson, 36, each pleaded guilty to first-degree Falsifying Business Records today, November 10, 2016, before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Martin Marcus.

District Attorney Clark said that the defendants will face up to five years of probation when they are sentenced on January 5, 2017 and will waive their right to appeal.

According to the investigation, on October 30, 2012, a day after Superstorm Sandy hit New York, inmates at the George R. Vierno Center on Rikers Island were confined in their cells for longer than usual due to the extreme weather event. Because of a dispute with inmate Gabino Genao, Captain Simancas and COs Wint and Jackson entered Genao’s cell, handcuffed him, and escorted him to a vestibule where they allegedly beat him. Afterwards the three officers falsified reports regarding the incident including the “Use of Force” report.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Newton Mendys, Supervisor of the Criminal Enterprise Bureau, and Meagan Powers of the Public Integrity Bureau, under the supervision of Stuart Levy, Deputy Chief of the Investigations Division, and Jean T. Walsh, Chief of the Investigations Division.



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District Attorney Clark would also like to thank Investigator Alexandria Maldonado of the Department of Correction Investigations Division and Assistant Inspector General Carmelo Galarza and Inspector General Jennifer Sculco of the Department of Investigation.

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