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79-2017
For Immediate Release
Oct. 5, 2017

**BRONX WOMAN CONVICTED OF FATALLY STABBING
PREGNANT WOMAN AND CUTTING BABY OUT OF HER WOMB
Defendant Slashed Victim's Throat; Tried to Pass Infant As Her Own**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx woman has been found guilty of Murder and Kidnapping for killing a pregnant woman and stealing the infant she removed from the victim's mutilated body.

District Attorney Clark said, "The facts of this case are unfathomable: a child was yanked from the womb moments after her mother was murdered on her wedding day. Two years later, that child is a vibrant little girl, a testament to survival and hope. We are glad we have brought justice to her and her mother's family."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Ashleigh Wade, 24, of 4450 Monticello Avenue in Wakefield, was convicted today by a jury of second-degree Murder and second-degree Kidnapping after a nearly two-week trial before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Margaret Clancy. Wade faces a maximum of 50 years to life in prison when she is sentenced on October 20, 2017.

According to trial testimony, Wade, who was pretending to be pregnant, reconnected with a childhood friend, Angelikque Sutton, 22, over social media. On November 20, 2015, Sutton--who was eight-months pregnant--stopped by the defendant's apartment to pick up some baby items before heading to her civil wedding ceremony. The defendant slashed Sutton's throat and proceeded to remove the victim's uterus and cut out the infant. Wade claimed she had given birth to the baby when police later arrived.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Meredith Holtzman, Chief of Trial Bureau 20, and Julia B. Gordon of the Criminal Enterprise Bureau under the overall supervision of Nicole Keary, Deputy Chief of the Trial Division and Jeremy Shockett, Chief of the Trial Division. District Attorney Clark thanked Detective John Baumeister of the 47th Precinct Detective Squad and Detective Robert Klein of the Bronx Homicide Task Force.