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For Immediate Release
March 2, 2018

14 MEMBERS OF CRACK-DEALING GROUP THAT PLAGUED JOHN ADAMS HOUSES INDICTED ON CONSPIRACY AND NARCOTICS CHARGES

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that 14 people have been indicted on Conspiracy and other charges for dealing crack cocaine in the John Adams Houses in Mott Haven.

District Attorney Clark said, “Thanks to the efforts of a year-long joint investigation, we have eliminated a drug organization that affected the quality of life of residents of this city housing complex. The defendants not only peddled crack cocaine but they did so publicly as well as in stairwells and jeopardizing the safety of the entire building. We will continue to pursue and prosecute those who endanger our communities.”

New York City Police Commissioner James P. O’Neill said, “I commend the investigators and prosecutors whose efforts resulted in these arrests involving narcotics sales in and around the Adams Houses. The NYPD continues to work closely with our law enforcement partners to hold responsible those who distribute narcotics in our communities.”

DEA Special Agent in Charge James J. Hunt stated, “DEA applauds the law enforcement collaboration that led to today’s arrests. This unity was a force multiplier in our goal of removing drug dealing from the Adams Housing Projects and surrounding areas.”

District Attorney Clark said the defendants are variously charged in six indictments with Conspiracy, Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance, Attempted Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance, second-degree Attempted Burglary and Possession of Burglar’s Tools.

Thirteen of the defendants were arrested on Thursday March 1, 2018 by NYPD Bronx Narcotics Violent Crime Squad, Bronx DA Investigators and agents from the federal Drug
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Enforcement Administration. They were arraigned before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Robert A. Neary and are due back in court on May 30, 2018. They face up to nine years in prison on the top count.

According to the investigation, which utilized court-authorized eavesdropping, between February 23, 2017 to February 26, 2018 the defendants sold and distributed cocaine in the John Adams Houses, with undercover officers making 32 buys of crack cocaine. Three defendants are also charged with Attempted Burglary in the Second Degree, and for possessing a crow bar, a wrench, a lock pick and a drill in relation to a planned break-in of a Bronx home.

The investigation also resulted in the arrest of Raymond Valdez, who has been indicted for the September 30, 2017 murder of Pedro Adrono.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Kieran Linehan of the Special Investigations Bureau and Megan West of the Narcotics Bureau, under the supervision of Tarek Rahman, Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau, and the overall supervision of Stuart Levy, Deputy Chief of the investigations Division and Jean T. Walsh, Chief of the Investigations Division.

District Attorney Clark thanked Chief Detective Investigator Frank Chiara, Deputy Chief Terence Mulderrig, Senior Investigator Vincent Cantarella, and Detective Investigators Matthew Cruz and Nicholas Cavalanti for their assistance, as well as Assistant District Attorneys Christina Paquette and Jennifer Shaw of the Asset Forfeiture Unit and Assistant District Attorney Howard Feldberg of the Special Investigations Unit.

District Attorney Clark also thanked Detective Jeffrey Conover and Sgt. Gene Ryerson of the Violent Crime Squad.

An indictment is an accusatory instrument and not proof of a defendant's guilt.

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DEFENDANTS

EBONY LANIER 43, 835 EAST 152 STREET, BRONX

ALLAN RIVERA, 31, 520 EAST 137 STREET, BRONX

ALEXIS CASTRO, 40, 1028 EAST 212 STREET BRONX

DAVON DILWORTH, 26, 1990 7TH AVENUE MANHATTAN

BILLY DIAZ, 44, 644 WALES AVENUE BRONX

JAMEL MCDONALD, 34 880 TINTON AVENUE BRONX

JOSHUA TAYLOR, 28, 721 TINTON AVENUE BRONX

KRISTOPHER MEADE, 39 107 EAST 105 STREET MANHATTAN

LAMONT DAVIS, 27, 680 TINTON AVENUE BRONX

ROBERT DIXON, 38, 664 UNION AVENUE BRONX

THEODORE BROOKS, 34, 700 EAST 156 STREET BRONX

SAUL COLON, 35, 345 EAST 145 STREET, BRONX

RAYMOND VALDEZ, 29 790 EAST 152 STREET

TABITHA HENRY, 25, 680 TINTON AVENUE APT BRONX (NOT YET APPREHENDED)