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**BRONX WOMAN INDICTED IN ILLEGAL COSMETIC PROCEDURE
THAT KILLED WOMAN
Defendant Carried Out Botched Procedure In Her Home**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx woman has been indicted for Manslaughter and other charges for allegedly providing illegal silicone injections that caused the death of a 48-year-old woman.

District Attorney Clark said, “The defendant allegedly illegally injected the victim with a silicone substance for cosmetic purposes. Tragically, the injections killed the victim, who had traveled from Philadelphia to the Bronx for the procedure.”

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Whalesca Castillo, 44, of 2219 Seward Avenue, was arraigned today on second-degree Manslaughter, Criminally Negligent Homicide and Unauthorized Practice before Bronx Supreme Court Justice David Lewis. Bail was set at \$150,000 bond and the defendant is due back in court on April 18, 2019. If convicted of the top charge, she could face up to 15 years in prison.

According to the investigation, on or about June 17, 2018, in the defendant’s home, Castillo injected silicone substance into the body of Lesbia Ayala, as part of an illegal cosmetic procedure to enhance the buttocks of the victim. The defendant did not have a license to practice medicine or cosmetic surgery. The victim died of systemic silicone embolism syndrome shortly after receiving the injections.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Karl Miller of the Homicide Bureau under the supervision of Christine Scaccia, Chief of the Homicide Bureau, and the overall supervision of James Brennan, Deputy Chief of the Trial Division, and Theresa Gottlieb, Chief of the Trial Division. District Attorney Clark thanked NYPD Detectives Carmen Torres of the 43rd Precinct Detective Squad and Anthony Velez of the Bronx Homicide Squad for their assistance.

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

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