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For Immediate Release
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BRONX MAN INDICTED FOR RAPING 13-YEAR-OLD BOY IN NYCHA SOTOMAYOR HOUSES

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man has been indicted for second-degree Rape and other charges in the sexual assault on a 13-year-old boy that took place in a building stairwell in the Sotomayor Houses in Soundview.

District Attorney Clark said “This defendant is charged with raping a 13-year-old boy whom he engaged online and then went to his building. This child has suffered trauma and we will do all we can to help him through this ordeal.”

District Attorney Clark said Ishmael Francis, 29, of the Bronx, was indicted on two counts of second-degree Rape, two counts of third-degree Rape, two counts of Sexual Misconduct, one count of Endangering the Welfare of a Child and one count of fourth-degree Grand Larceny. He was arraigned today before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Shari Michels who continued Supervised Release for the defendant. He is due back in court on January 7, 2025.

According to the investigation, at about 11:00 pm on September 18, 2024, the defendant allegedly engaged in a conversation online with the victim. He then went to the child’s address and waited in a stairwell. When the child exited his apartment to take out the trash and entered the stairwell, the defendant allegedly engaged in sexual acts with the boy. The defendant then allegedly stole the child’s cell phone and fled the building when the child’s family began to call out for him. The child ran back to his apartment and 911 was called. The victim was taken to New York Health + Hospitals Jacobi. The defendant was identified through information provided in his online messages to the victim and he was arrested on September 24, 2024.

The case is being prosecuted by Major Case Assistant Tiffany Wichman of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau under the supervision of Johanna Hernandez and Alexandra Militano, Deputy Bureau Chiefs of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau and Mimi Mairs, Bureau Chief of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau under the overall supervision of Adrienne Giunta, Deputy Chief of the Special Victims Division and Joseph Muroff, Chief of the Special Victims Division. District Attorney Clark thanked Trial Preparation Assistant Elaina Clarke and Child & Family Advocate Gina Zarate for their assistance in the case.



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District Attorney Clark thanked NYPD Detective Yoan Deleon from the Bronx Special Victims Squad and NYPD Detective Michael Summa from the Bronx Warrants Squad for their work in the investigation.

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