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Brooklyn Man Arraigned On Murder and Other Charges For Alleged Stabbing Spree That Left 6-Year-Old Boy Dead, 7-Year-Old Girl Wounded

Defendant Ordered Held Without Bail; Faces Up To Life In Prison If Convicted

Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson today announced that a Brooklyn man has been arraigned on second-degree murder and other charges in connection with a stabbing spree that left a 6-year-old boy dead and his 7-year-old playmate seriously injured.

District Attorney Thompson said, "This defendant is accused of viciously attacking innocent and defenseless children who were trapped in an elevator with him. Prince Joshua Avitto was taken far before his time and his family will struggle with this for years to come, as will seven-year-old Mikayla Capers. We are committed to seeking justice for them and to holding this defendant accountable for his actions."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Daniel St. Hubert, 27, of 658 Jamaica Avenue, in Brooklyn. St. Hubert was arraigned last night before Brooklyn Criminal Court Judge Raymond Rodriguez on a criminal complaint in which he is charged with one count of second-degree murder, one count of second-degree attempted murder, one count of first-degree assault, and one count each of third- and fourth-degree criminal possession of a weapon. He was ordered held without bail and to return to court on June 11, 2014. The defendant faces up to 50 years to life in prison if convicted. The defendant appeared in court briefly today to be assigned an attorney.

The District Attorney said that, according to the criminal complaint, on June 1, 2014, at approximately 5:40 p.m., at the Boulevard Houses located at 845 Schenck Avenue in the East New York section of Brooklyn, the victims, Prince Joshua Avitto, 6, and Mikayla Capers, 7, were seen entering the building as was the defendant. Soon thereafter the defendant was seen walking out of the building -- then running -- before falling to the ground, and getting up again, and running away.

The District Attorney said that, according to the criminal complaint, Mikayla Capers, who was bleeding from about her body, was seen exiting the building shortly after the defendant. Police responded to the scene and recovered a bloody knife where the defendant had fallen, which later tested positive for his DNA on the handle. Prince Joshua Avitto was found on the floor of the elevator with multiple stab wounds about his body. He was pronounced dead upon arrival at Brookdale Hospital. Mikayla Capers was taken to the hospital and is being treated for abdominal bleeding and a lacerated spleen caused by multiple stab wounds.

The District Attorney extended his thanks to members of the New York City Police Department, as well as to prosecutors and to members of the East New York community for their hard work in finding the defendant and bringing him to justice.

The case was investigated by New York City Police Department detectives assigned to the 75th Precinct Detective Squad and the Brooklyn North Homicide Squad.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Patrick L. O'Connor, Deputy Chief of the District Attorney's Gang Bureau, under the supervision of Nicole L. Chavis, Bureau Chief, and Kenneth M. Taub, Chief of the District Attorney's Homicide Bureau.

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A criminal complaint is an accusatory instrument and not proof of a defendant's guilt.