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For Immediate Release

May 16, 2022

**BRONX MAN INDICTED FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER IN
SOUNDVIEW SCHOOL SLASHINGS
Defendant Attacked a Teacher and a School Safety Agent with a Knife**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a Bronx man has been indicted for Attempted Murder in the first degree and other related charges for barging into PS 69 Journey Prep with a knife and slashing two staff members. One was cut in the arm, the other in the neck.

District Attorney Clark said, "The defendant allegedly was beating a school staff member whom he knew, and the other staffers intervened and were slashed. We thank them for jeopardizing their safety to protect their coworker and the school's students and are grateful to the other multiple staff members who intervened before the situation became much worse. If there is one place where children should be safe, it's in school."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Claudio Villar, 23, of the Bronx, was arraigned today on Attempted Murder in the first degree, Attempted Murder in the second degree, Attempted Assault in the first degree, Attempted Assault on a Peace Officer, Police Officer, Fireman or Emergency Medical Services Professional, three counts of second-degree Assault, two counts of Attempted Assault in the second degree, three counts of third-degree Assault, second-degree Menacing, and two counts of fourth-degree Criminal Possession of a Weapon before Bronx Supreme Court Justice George Villegas. Bail was set at \$250,000 and Villar is due back in court on August 17, 2022.

According to the investigation, on April 14, 2022, just before the school day began, the defendant went into PS 69 Journey Prep seeking a person whom he was dating. Villar then allegedly chased her down the hallway and started to punch her. A teacher and a School Safety Agent tried to stop the attack when they were slashed with a knife. The teacher was slashed in the arm, and the school safety agent was struck in the neck. All three victims were treated for their injuries at a local hospital. The defendant fled the scene and later turned himself into police. Although school was not in session, there were students in the building for a morning program, as well as additional staff.

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The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Megan Leo of the Domestic Violence Bureau, under the supervision of Agata DiGiovanni, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau, and 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 School Safety Agent Evan Jacobs and the NYPD Detective Squad of the 43rd Precinct.

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

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