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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **S.I. MAN FACES 25 YEARS IN PRISON FOLLOWING MANSLAUGHTER PLEA IN BEATING DEATH OF 20 MONTH OLD INFANT**

***\*\*\* Edwin Garcia, 30, Enters Plea to 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Manslaughter in Death of Girlfriend's  
Infant Daughter\*\*\****

STATEN ISLAND, NY – Richmond County District Attorney Daniel M. Donovan, Jr. today announced that Edwin Garcia (DOB: 6/15/1977) of 81 Jersey St., has entered a guilty plea to Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, a Class B felony for his role in the death of his girlfriend's 20 month old daughter, Hailey Gonzalez (DOB: 11/21/05) in August 2007. As part of the plea agreement, Garcia will be sentenced to 25 years in prison by State Supreme Court Justice Robert J. Collini at his June 11, 2008 sentencing date.

Garcia admitted his guilt to allegations that he shook and threw the victim, and slammed her head into a playpen containing hard plastic toys, resulting in severe head injuries and later death. Following the August 7, 2007 assault, Hailey Gonzalez was transported to Richmond University Medical Center where she remained on life-support until Monday, August 13, 2007. The defendants were arrested on August 7, 2007 for the assault of the child.

The child's mother, Marlene Medina, 25, was sentenced to 2 to 6 years in prison on May 15, 2008 following her guilty plea to a charge of Manslaughter in the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree for failing to obtain proper medical attention for her daughter's injuries.

The case against Edwin Garcia is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Yolanda L. Rudich, Chief of the Sex Crimes/Special Victims Bureau and Assistant District Attorney Kelly Carroll of the Supreme Court Bureau. Edwin Garcia is represented by Eugene Lamb, Esq.

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