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## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release on October 19, 2009

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### **D.A. DONOVAN: S.I. MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CHARGES OF RECORDING SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN, FACES 20 TO LIFE SENTENCE**

***\*\*\*Carlos Rosario, 57, Faces up to Life in Prison Under New State Law After Seizure of Hundreds of Images of Child Pornography Leads to Sexual Assault Charges\*\*\****

STATEN ISLAND, NY - Richmond County District Attorney Daniel M. Donovan, Jr. today announced that Carlos Rosario, (DOB: 8/25/1952) of Kimberly Lane, has pleaded guilty to charges that he sexually assaulted four young girls over a period of years from May 2002 to September 2008. The defendant also videotaped and photographed his sexual abuse of the victims.

The defendant plead guilty to the top charge of Predatory Sexual Assault, a Class A-II felony, and will be sentenced to a period of imprisonment ranging from 20 years to life when he is sentenced on November 6, 2009 before Justice Leonard P. Rienzi, who accepted the defendant's guilty plea in State Supreme Court. The defendant is the first Staten Islander to be charged and convicted under the crime of Predatory Sexual Assault, a Class A felony enacted in 2006, carrying a maximum penalty of life in prison.

District Attorney Donovan stated, "Carlos Rosario is a dangerous child predator who victimized and exploited his young victims. By his heinous behavior, this defendant has forfeited the right to live in our civil society where he would be free to victimize even more children. This top count plea will almost certainly guarantee that this predator will die in prison."

The charges against the defendant are the result of an investigation that began in September 2008 when an acquaintance of the defendant uncovered explicit photographs of her daughter on the defendant's cell phone. A search warrant for the defendant's cell phone and computer uncovered hundreds of explicit photos and videos. The investigation determined that the defendant had engaged in oral and anal sexual contact with this victim beginning in the summer of 2006, when she was 15 years old.

Subsequent investigation of the videos and photographs of the victims recovered from the defendant's residence led to the identification of three additional victims:

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- Between May and August 2002, the defendant engaged in oral sexual conduct with a girl in his neighborhood, who is now 16 years of age. The defendant is alleged to have taken Polaroid photos of the acts.
- Between July 2003 and September 2008, the defendant engaged in oral and anal sexual conduct with a victim, now 12 years of age, multiple times a week. The defendant photographed and videotaped the victim on numerous occasions.
- During the summers of 2005-2007, up until June 2008, the defendant engaged in oral and anal sexual conduct with the victim, now 10 years of age. Acts with this victim were also photographed and videotaped.

The case against Carlos Rosario is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Raja Rajeswari, Deputy Chief of the Sex Crimes/Special Victims Bureau and Assistant District Attorney Kenneth Moore under the supervision of Assistant District Attorney Yolanda L. Rudich, Bureau Chief. The defendant is represented by Michael Harding, Esq.

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