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RICHMOND COUNTY

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## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release on Wednesday, September 7, 2016

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**D.A. McMahon: Staten Island man indicted for Attempted Murder of police officer**  
*\*\*\*Dante Martin assaulted police officer, tried to steal service weapon in failed attempt to escape custody \*\*\**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. – – Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon today announced that DANTE MARTIN has been indicted on charges including Attempted Murder in the First Degree, Attempted Aggravated Murder, Assault in the Second Degree, Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree and Attempted Escape in the Second Degree, among other charges, for assaulting a police officer and attempting to take her service weapon in a failed effort to escape custody. Mr. Martin was previously arrested for Criminal Possession of a Weapon a few days prior to this incident.

“This defendant is a convicted felon who is alleged to have put the life of a police officer and possibly innocent bystanders in grave danger with his reckless and selfish attempt to escape custody,” said District Attorney Michael E. McMahon. “His alleged actions nearly cost a brave cop her life, and now, after being indicted by a grand jury, my office will vigorously prosecute this case to ensure Mr. Martin is held accountable for his crimes.”

According to a 19-count indictment and documents filed in court, on or about August 25, 2016, police officers received a 911 call of a man who was threatening a woman and menacing her with a firearm near 55 Holland Avenue. Officers arrived on the scene and identified the defendant as the only person matching the description. As officers approached the defendant, he fled, allegedly dropping a firearm. Police eventually apprehended the defendant and recovered a loaded Glock 23 with nine rounds of ammunition in the magazine. After MARTIN was arrested, the defendant claimed he needed medical attention and was taken to Richmond University Medical Center. MARTIN was admitted to the hospital and while there, on August 28, 2016, he told the officer who was guarding him that he needed to use the bathroom. The officer removed his handcuffs, and once she did, he attacked her. The defendant took the officer down to the ground and wrapped his arms around her. MARTIN was on top of the officer, punching her and placing his hand over her holster. He had his hand on the top part of the holster and was trying to get the gun out of the holster. During this time, the officer was yelling and screaming for help. Hospital security and another patient came in the room and told the defendant to get off the officer and get his hand off her gun. He told them that he has to do this and that his finger is on the trigger. As another patient was talking to MARTIN, the defendant took his finger off the trigger. Other officers came into the room and arrested the defendant as he struggled with them.

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MARTIN was arraigned today, September 7, 2016, in State Supreme Court, St. George, before Judge Stephen J. Rooney and remanded without bail.

The case is being prosecuted by ADA Adam Silberlight, Deputy Chief of the Trials Bureau.

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The charges contained in the attached indictment are merely allegations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

Defendant Information:  
Dante Martin  
D.O.B.6/20/1980  
140 Park Hill Avenue, Staten Island, NY

*-End-*