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PRESS RELEASE

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D.A. McMahon: Staten Island man sentenced to 16 years for fatal shooting at hotel

****Carl October and co-defendant robbed and killed victim ****

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. – Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon today announced that CARL OCTOBER was sentenced to 16 years in prison after previously pleading guilty to Attempted Murder in the Second Degree for fatally shooting Michelle Hernandez Vasquez during a robbery at a Staten Island hotel.

OCTOBER, 27, was sentenced Thursday in State Supreme Court, St. George, by Judge Stephen J. Rooney. OCTOBER'S co-defendant, DEREKSON LETT, 27, was already sentenced to 11 years in prison after previously pleading guilty to Robbery in the First Degree for his role in the incident.

"These defendants committed a violent armed robbery that resulted in a tragic loss of life, and our thoughts and prayers remain with the victim's family," said District Attorney Michael E. McMahon. "With these sentences, Mr. Lett and Mr. October will both be held responsible for the pain they have caused through their heartless and ruinous actions, and Staten Island will be much safer with them behind bars."

On April 4, 2015, at about 3 a.m., inside of a hotel room at the Staten Island Motor Inn Lodge, at 481 Hylan Boulevard, the defendants, acting together, robbed a person at gunpoint. On April 4, 2015, at about 3:20 a.m., at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, at 1274 Hylan Boulevard, the defendants attempted to rob Michelle Hernandez Vasquez inside a room at the hotel. During the attempted robbery, a struggle ensued between the defendants and the victim. While LETT was struggling with the victim, he told OCTOBER to shoot. OCTOBER fired two .40 caliber rounds into the room causing the death of Vasquez. Both of the defendants fled from the scene and were later apprehended by police.

The case was prosecuted by ADA Tuesday Muller-Mondi, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

Defendant Information:

Carl October
D.O.B. 11/23/1988
685 Rockaway Parkway, Brooklyn, NY

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