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PRESS RELEASE

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D.A. McMahon: Staten Island Man Sentenced to 30 years to Life for Murdering 17-year-old

Mark Ortiz fatally shot Barry Lovelace

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. – Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon today announced that MARK ORTIZ was sentenced to 30 years to life in prison after previously being found guilty of Murder in the Second Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree for shooting Barry Lovelace, killing him.

ORTIZ, 22, was convicted of three indictment counts following a week-long jury trial in Richmond County State Supreme Court before Justice Mario F. Mattei. The defendant was sentenced to 22 years to life in prison on Murder in the Second Degree. Additionally, Judge Mattei sentenced the defendant to 8 years in prison on one count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree and 5 years in jail on a second count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon. The 8-year term will run concurrent with the 5-year term. The judge imposed that the 22-year sentence run consecutive with the 8-year sentence, totaling 30 years.

"This defendant fatally shot his own friend in a brutal act of gun violence," said District Attorney Michael E. McMahon. "Now, he will spend 30 years to life behind bars for his heartless crime. Our thoughts and prayers remain with the victim's family."

On February 16, 2015, at about 1:45 a.m., inside an apartment building at 806 Henderson Avenue, ORTIZ fired at least four rounds from a 9 millimeter semi-automatic pistol at Barry Lovelace, 17, killing him. After the shooting the defendant fled from the scene on foot. A witness identified ORTIZ as the person whom Lovelace stated had shot him immediately before Lovelace died. The witness also identified ORTIZ as having been in the apartment immediately before the shooting.

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The case was prosecuted by ADA Lisa Davis and Victoria Levin.

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Defendant Information:
Mark Ortiz

D.O.B. 12/7/1994
791 Manor Road, Staten Island, N.Y.

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