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PRESS RELEASE

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Statements by Staten Island District Attorney Michael McMahon and DOI Commissioner Mark Peters on Felony Guilty Pleas by Gaspare and Paul Santoro

** Santoros admit to filing false asbestos reports from Mt. Manresa site **

STATEN ISLAND, NY – Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon and Department of Investigation (DOI) Commissioner Mark G. Peters today announced that **Gaspare Santoro and Paul Santoro** each pleaded guilty to a felony count of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the first degree for filing false asbestos reports in relation to the demolition of Mt. Manresa. Under the plea agreement, Gaspare Santoro will surrender his engineering and asbestos inspector and asbestos investigator licenses and Paul Santoro will surrender his asbestos inspector and asbestos investigator licenses. Neither can new work in those fields as of today. If they do not comply, the Santoros face one and a third to four years in prison. The plea was taken in Richmond County Supreme Court before Judge William E. Garnett.

"Today's guilty plea by Gaspare and Paul Santoro to the felony charge of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the first degree, sends a clear message to anyone who deceives the public in the interest of greed" said **Staten Island District Attorney Michael E. McMahon**. "By willfully falsifying asbestos reports from the Mt. Manresa site, the Santoros showed blatant disregard for public health, including construction workers and neighboring residents. While today's outcome, which includes the forfeiture of the Santoros' engineering and asbestos investigator licenses, will not undo the actions of the developers at Mt. Manresa, it will prevent these individuals from ever again committing these crimes."

McMahon continued, "I want to thank Assistant District Attorneys Gregg Brown and Carrie Low for their steadfast dedication to pursuing justice in this case and Commissioner Peters and his team at DOI for their collaboration and hard work."

Department of Investigation Commissioner Mark G. Peters said, "These convictions serve as a warning to all construction professionals who choose to break the law by twisting the facts and endangering workers: we will expose you, we will arrest you, and you will lose your license to do business within this City. DOI will continue to work with the Staten Island District Attorney to stop this kind of corruption."

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This case was prosecuted by ADAs Gregg Brown and Carrie Low of the Narcotics and Investigations Bureau.

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Defendant Information:

Gaspare Santoro D.O.B. 5/19/1940 Staten Island, NY

Paul Santoro D.O.B. 2/2/1979 Staten Island, NY