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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023

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**QUEENS MAN SENTENCED TO 25 YEARS IN PRISON FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER
AFTER FRACTURING A 6-YEAR-OLD'S SKULL IN RANDOM ATTACK**

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz announced that Laurence Gendreau was sentenced today to 25 years in prison for attempted murder in connection with the random assault of a 6-year-old boy he lifted over his head and slammed into the ground head-first, fracturing the child's skull. The boy additionally suffered bleeding on the brain and a collapsed lung as a result of the attack in front of his grandparents' Kew Gardens home.

District Attorney Katz said: "The brutality displayed by this defendant toward an innocent child is heartbreaking. With this sentence, we have achieved justice for the young boy and his family and taken a dangerous man off of our streets."

Gendreau, 39, whose last known address was on 110th Street in Richmond Hill, was convicted by a jury last month of attempted murder in the second degree, assault in the first degree, two counts of endangering the welfare of a child, grand larceny in the fourth degree and criminal possession of stolen property in the fifth degree. Justice Ira Margulis today sentenced Gendreau to 25 years in prison to be followed by five years-post release supervision.

According to the charges and trial testimony:

- On October 10, 2019, at approximately 4:45 p.m., a 6-year-old was waiting with his older brother outside their grandparents' Kew Gardens home for a pizza delivery. Gendreau, who was walking by, suddenly charged the child, yelling at him. He lifted the boy over his head and slammed him onto the pavement head-first.
- The boy's brother ran inside the grandparents' house to alert his family. Gendreau fled. The grandfather chased after Gendreau and flagged down a police officer, who arrested Gendreau near Lefferts Boulevard and Metropolitan Avenue.
- The victim was transported to a hospital, where he was treated for a fractured skull, bleeding on the brain and a collapsed lung. He has since recovered.
- Earlier in the day, at approximately 3:30 p.m., on Union Turnpike in Kew Gardens, Gendreau approached an 83-year-old woman and snatched her iPad. The stolen iPad was recovered from Gendreau when he was arrested after assaulting the 6-year-old.

Assistant District Attorney Kanella Georgopoulos, of the District Attorney's Office's Career Criminal Major Crimes Bureau prosecuted the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Michael Whitney, Bureau Chief, and under the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Major Crimes Shawn Clark.

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Note to Editors: Archived press releases are available at www.queensda.org.

