



718.286.6000
WWW.QUEENSDA.ORG

QUEENS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
125-01 QUEENS BOULEVARD
KEW GARDENS, NEW YORK 11415-1568



MELINDA KATZ
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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CONTACT: PRESS OFFICE (718) 286-6315
QDACommunications@queensda.org

**SEVEN DEFENDANTS INDICTED FOR SHOOTING AT BABY SHOWER THAT KILLED ONE
MAN AND INJURED THREE OTHERS**

Gunfire Erupted Outside Party and then Broke Out Inside Richmond Hill Venue; Investigation is Ongoing

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz announced today that seven men were indicted by a grand jury and variously charged with weapon possession, reckless endangerment other crimes in connection with a shooting at a baby shower in Richmond Hill in May. The gunfire, which was apparently gang related, erupted outside the party venue and then continued inside where more than 40 people were gathered including four young children. A 24-year-old Long Island man was killed, and three others were injured.

District Attorney Katz said: “An event that was supposed to be the celebration of a new life turned into a deadly bloodbath when gunfire erupted both inside and outside a party venue. It was a scene out of the Wild West with at least 35 bullet casings recovered as two groups of rivals fired at each other, and a 24-year-old man lost his life in the process. This is an ongoing investigation, and my office is resolute in prosecuting those who plague our communities with gun violence.”

Michael Hammond, 20, of Brooklyn; Jermaine Orr, 23, of 210th Street in Cambria Heights; Javed Duncan, 23, of Menands, NY; and Jameer Bennett, 20, of 181st Place in Springfield Gardens; were each charged in a 55-count indictment with two counts of criminal possession of a weapon in the second degree, reckless endangerment in the first degree, criminal possession of a firearm and four counts of endangering the welfare of a child. Hammond was additionally charged with tampering with physical evidence.

Lagarthucin LeGrand, 50, of Brooklyn, was charged with four counts of attempted criminal possession of a weapon in the second degree, two counts of criminal possession of a weapon in the third degree, two counts of criminal possession of a firearm and tampering with physical evidence. His son, Lagarthucin LeGrand Jr., 26, of Brooklyn, was charged with tampering with physical evidence.

A seventh defendant has yet to be apprehended.

Orr, Bennett and Lagarthucin LeGrand were arraigned yesterday before Justice Edwin Novillo who ordered them to return to court on February 27. Duncan, Hammond and Lagarthucin LeGrand Jr. will be arraigned at a later date.

Hammond, Orr, Duncan and Bennett face up to 15 years in prison if convicted. LeGrand faces up to 11 years and LeGrand Jr. faces up to four years.

District Attorney Katz said that, according to the charges and investigation, on May 4, 2024, more than 40 people, including four young children, attended a baby shower at Volume Seventeen, a storefront event venue at 108-11 Atlantic Avenue in Richmond Hill.

At approximately 1:30 a.m., approximately dozen people were standing outside the venue when they were approached by two people who opened fire on the group.

One man suffered a gunshot wound to his leg and another man was hit in the abdomen, leg and arm.

The panicked partygoers ran back inside the venue and those inside ran and ducked for cover. Several people, including Orr, Bennett, Hammond and Duncan, allegedly fired guns through the venue’s windows outside to the sidewalk where the shooters had been.

One attendee, 24-year-old Jefari Dobie-Reinhardt of Great Neck, was fatally struck by the gunfire. Another partygoer was also injured.

After the gunfire stopped, LeGrand, the expectant grandfather, was allegedly handed a gun by another person who has not been apprehended. He took the firearm and placed it in a tray of rice. His son then put a cover

on the tray. A loaded 9 mm Sig Sauer pistol was recovered from a tray of rice in a garbage bag behind the incident location.

Hammond is alleged to have placed a gun in a tray of food and carried it out of the location.

Police recovered 35 shell casings, one fired bullet and two live cartridges from inside the venue.

Assistant District Attorneys Danielle Catinella and Brendan Quinones of the District Attorney’s Career Criminal Major Crime Bureau are prosecuting under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Michael Whitney, Bureau Chief, Roni Piplani, Deputy Chief, and under the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney of Major Crimes Shawn Clark.

Criminal complaints and indictments are accusations. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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