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> Office of Public Information 718-250-2300

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 2, 2014

# Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson Announces the Indictment of Michael Rodriguez Accused of Conducting a 10-day Bank Robbery Spree

The Defendant Collected More Than \$22,000 from Three Banks

**Brooklyn, NY --** Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson today announced the indictment of Michael Rodriguez, 33, accused of robbing three banks and attempting to rob a fourth between March 16 and March 26 in 2014. The defendant faces multiple charges of larceny and robbery, among others.

"We simply will not allow anyone to rob our banks in broad daylight and terrorize bank tellers in the process. We will hold the Defendant accountable for this bank robbery spree," said District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson.

According to court documents, Defendant Rodriguez followed a distinct pattern. Each time, he allegedly gave the bank teller a hand-written note, written in the same pen, on the same type of paper with identical wording, including misspellings. The defendant demanded money and said he had a gun. He never spoke. In addition, Rodriguez consistently wore a hooded black full length "*North Face*" coat with logo. There were surveillance photos taken at each location.

These are the locations for each robbery:

March 16: Defendant took \$5,761 from Flushing Bank, 4616 13<sup>th</sup> Ave.

March 19: Defendant took \$485 from Investor's Bank, 431 Court St.

March 21: Defendant took \$16,943 from Flushing Bank, 7102 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.

March 26: Defendant was turned away by a bank teller at Apple Bank, 1973 86<sup>th</sup> St.

The defendant Rodriguez was picked up on the same day of his last attempt at his home in Ridgewood Queens, and later arrested in Brooklyn. Prior to his arrest, the police matched the defendant's fingerprints to prints found on the note from the March 19<sup>th</sup> incident. The note from the fourth location was found in the defendant's car.

An indictment is an accusatory instrument and not proof of a defendant's guilt.

### **Defendant Information**

Michael Rodriguez, DOB: 12/08/80

### **Charges**:

The Jury voted a true bill on 3 counts of Robbery in the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, 2 counts of Grand Larceny 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, 1 count of Attempted Robbery in the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, 3 counts of Petit Larceny and 1 count of Attempted Petit Larceny.

- Robbery in the Third Degree, 3 counts
- Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, 2 counts
- Attempted Robbery in the Third Degree, 1 count
- Petit Larceny, 3 counts
- Attempted Petit Larceny, 1 count

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