



Kenneth P. Thompson
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson Announces
Appointment of Maritza Mejia-Ming to Head the DA's Immigrant Fraud Unit**
Ming has been an Assistant District Attorney since 1997

Brooklyn, NY. Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson has announced the appointment and promotion of Assistant District Attorney Maritza Mejia-Ming as Chief of the District Attorney's new Immigrant Fraud Unit. Ming, a Brooklyn prosecutor since 1997 when she joined the KCDA, has extensive trial experience. She also comes from a family of immigrants, having been born in the Dominican Republic. The Immigrant Fraud Unit is newly created and is under the Investigations Division and its Chief William Schaeffer.

"Immigrants, especially those without documentation, are especially vulnerable to fraud, particularly in the areas of employment, housing and the procurement of proper immigration documents. Our Immigrant Fraud Unit will serve to open a channel of communication to victims of crime who might not otherwise feel that they have a voice. As Chief of this Unit, Maritza Mejia-Ming brings to her role a unique understanding of the immigrant experience, as well as significant trial and supervisory experience."

The Immigrant Fraud Unit will investigate and prosecute criminal schemes targeting immigrant communities and offer education and appropriate recourse to victims of these schemes. The Unit will conduct and handle a range of investigations and related prosecutions, such as: Unlicensed "attorneys" who purportedly confer legal advice, or promise the proper processing of immigration paperwork; individuals who promise, for a fee, to aid in the sponsorship of work visas, or to provide employment training; advance fee scams that target immigrants seeking employment; and investment scams—among other kinds of fraud.

Maritza Mejia-Ming was born in the Dominican Republic and arrived with her family in 1972. Since joining the KCDA in 1997, she has served in Criminal Court, the Domestic Violence, Grand Jury and Investigations Bureaus. Most recently, Ming has served as First Deputy Bureau Chief in the Early Case Assessment Bureau (ECAB). In addition to her responsibilities and accomplishments as a prosecutor, Ming has mentored teenagers in Brownsville as part of the District Attorney's Office's Council for Unity.

Martiza Mejia-Ming received her Bachelor's degree from Binghamton University and her Juris Doctor from Fordham Law School.

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