OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
RICHMOND COUNTY

MICHAEL E. MCMAHON
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
130 STUYVESANT PLACE
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10301

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
July 23rd, 2025
Contact: James Clinton (718) 556-6350
press@rcda.nyc.gov

After First-Of-Its-Kind Drug Smuggling Case, DA McMahon Secures 17 to 22 Year Prison Sentence for Prolific Poison Peddler Who Smuggled Fentanyl into Staten Island Courthouse & Tragically Caused Infant's Fatal Overdose

Awaiting Trial After the Overdose Death of His Infant Son, Kamagate Arranged for a Delivery of Court Documents Infused with Liquid Fentanyl, Cocaine, and PCP in the Staten Island Supreme Courthouse

On Wednesday, July 23rd, Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon announced the sentencing of defendant Adam Kamagate. Pleading guilty to Manslaughter in the First Degree and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Second Degree last month, Kamagate will now serve consecutive sentences – an indeterminate sentence of five to 10 years for Manslaughter in the Second Degree followed by a determinate sentence of twelve years for Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Second Degree for a total of 17 to 22 years

in prison. Responsible for the fatal overdose of his 16-month-old son, Sakani, over two years ago, Kamagate followed up this unspeakable tragedy by attempting to smuggle fentanyl, cocaine, and PCP into the Staten Island Supreme Courthouse via court documents infused with the death-dealing narcotics in a first-of-its-kind case in New York State.

The plot was revealed in September 2023, as Department of Correction (DOC) Investigators confiscated documents being transferred from co-defendant Curtis Braswell to Kamagate after learning of the plot through phone calls made by Kamagate on Rikers Island. This led to further investigation by the Richmond County District Attorney's Office alongside DOC, which revealed at least two other incidents where Braswell and Kamagate attempted to carry out similar transfers earlier in the summer.

"Today's sentencing marks a solemn and necessary step toward justice in the tragic case involving defendant Adam Kamagate," said **Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon.** "His actions displayed a profound and unforgivable disregard for human life – first, by exposing his 16-month-old child to dangerous drugs, ultimately leading to the child's death, and then, by continuing to endanger others while in custody on those charges through the introduction of fentanyl-laced documents into a correctional facility – an action that not only jeopardized the lives of staff and fellow inmates but also highlighted his continued willingness to engage in criminal activity with potentially deadly consequences."

"Adam Kamagate was already behind bars, responsible for the overdose death of his infant son, yet he remained entrenched in the drug trade," said **NYPD Commissioner Jessica S. Tisch**. "I commend the NYPD detectives whose tireless work uncovered the truth about his son's tragic death, and thank our law enforcement partners – at the Department of Correction and District Attorney's Office – for holding this defendant accountable for his actions."

"This is another strategic recovery from New York's Boldest and a clear example of how the men and women of DOC work every day to keep New York City and our jails safer. When our DOC investigators uncovered this plot, they prevented violence, protected people from dangerous substances, and made it crystal clear to anyone seeking to do the same that we will find you," said **NYC Correction Commissioner Lynelle Maginley-Liddie**. "The lives of every staff member and every incarcerated person is endangered when fentanyl enters the facility, and I have zero tolerance for anyone who attempts to smuggle dangerous substances into our jails. I commend DA McMahon and his team for their effective prosecution and thank the court for sentencing Mr. Kamagate proportionately to the harm he sought to cause."

"Thanks to the diligent and unwavering efforts of our partners in the NYPD and Department of Corrections, as well as RCDA's Special Victims Bureau Chief Rhiannon La Tour and Assistant District Attorney Matthew Signorile who both worked tirelessly on this case, justice has now been served," **added District Attorney McMahon**. "Their coordination, expertise, and commitment ensured that Mr. Kamagate was held accountable for both the death of his child and his continued criminal conduct behind bars. The men and women of my office along with our partners in law enforcement remain deeply committed to protecting the most vulnerable among us and will continue to pursue justice with the full force of the law for those who choose to endanger innocent lives."

###

Contact: James Clinton – James.Clinton@rcda.nyc.gov - 718-556-6350

-30-