City and County of Honolulu

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HONOLULU – Bronson C. Baruz, 33, was indicted by the O'ahu grand jury today and charged with numerous counts of sexual assault, kidnapping, and burglary. Bail was set in the aggregate amount of \$250,000.

Baruz was indicted and charged with the following crimes:

- Five counts of Sexual Assault in the First Degree
- One count of Kidnapping
- One count of Burglary in the First Degree

Baruz is accused of the brutal sexual assault of a 71-year-old woman in her McCully apartment on June 21, 2021.

Prosecuting Attorney Steve Alm said of the indictment, "We will not tolerate violent and dangerous intrusions into the homes of our kūpuna." "I thank the Honolulu Police Department for their efforts to investigate and arrest the suspect in this case," he said.

Alm is also warning residents to be vigilant inside their homes. "Residents should lock their doors and windows even when they are home," he said. "Do not open the door to those whom you do not know," he continued. "Residents should be aware of suspicious individuals in the area and report them to police," he said.

Based on the serious nature of the offenses, the need to deter future criminal conduct, and to protect the public from further crimes, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney will be seeking the maximum prison sentence for Baruz if he is convicted.

The case is being prosecuted by Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Victoria Chang, a member of the Department's Special Prosecution Division. Baruz is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.