

# Slain cat's DNA leads to killer; brute stabbed little Madea with an umbrella, says ASPCA

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DAILY NEWS WRITERS

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Little Madea was stabbed with an umbrella -- but her DNA led to her killer's capture.

A cold-hearted animal killer stabbed his mother-in-law's feline to death with an umbrella, and then told relatives: "It was only a cat, who cares?" lawyers said Friday.

[Lordtyshon Garrett](#), 31, terrorized the 9-

pound pussycat by poking and beating her, leaving the pet with injuries as severe as if she had fallen off a high-rise building or been hit by a car, animal experts said.

In a futile attempt to fight back, the 4-year-old feline, Madea, bit and scratched the plastic umbrella. The ASPCA found the cat's DNA on the umbrella and used it to pin the crime on Garrett, whose DNA also was found.

The cat-astrophic beatdown took place in the Brooklyn home of Garrett's mother-in-law, [Deborah Bender](#) on Oct. 12, where Garrett and his wife were staying. Bender believes Garrett flipped out when she told him to find a job and move out.

"She was more than just a cat," a tearful Bender, 49, said. "I'm not having any more kids - some grandkids maybe - but that was my baby right there."

Garrett was charged with felony animal cruelty, which carries a maximum two years in jail. He was arraigned in Brooklyn criminal court Friday and was being held in lieu of \$3,500 bail.

His wife and mother defended their loved one Friday. "My son wouldn't do that,"

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Garrett's mom, [Juanita Reid](#), said.  
"Tyshon's likeable, everybody gets along with him. He's a joker."

ASPCA officers arrested Garrett Thursday and prosecutors Friday laid out the chain of events that led to the cat's untimely death.

They said he first lured the kitty into the bathroom using food, closed the door and turned on the shower. The domestic short-hair breed emerged a short time later drenched and having difficulty breathing.

The 186-pound man then chased the cat around the apartment, poking her with the umbrella, leaving pieces of black plastic strewn in the pet's litter box, prosecutors said.

He then chased the cat into another room and closed the door.

When Bender's son quizzed him, Garrett laughed and replied: "Damn, I left a smoking gun," prosecutors said.

The cat was rushed to the vet's office the next day and put down. "The injuries that caused the cat to be euthanized were caused by being beaten with an umbrella," assistant district attorney [Efrat Sternberg](#)

said.

This is the ASPCA's 51st arrest for animal cruelty this year, and only the second time animal DNA evidence has been used in [New York City](#) to catch the perpetrator, officials said.

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