

'If I had intentions of coming to fight, I would have come down with something.'

Parking spot stab victim: I struck first

By **MATT STOUT**

A bizarre Mission Hill assault rooted in a dispute over a snowy parking space took an even stranger twist in the first day of trial yesterday, when the victim — stabbed with a knife and screwdriver in what prosecutors said was a dual mother-daughter attack — admitted throwing the first punch, misidentified a defendant and even said she wished she had brought her own weapon to the street-side brawl.

Carmen Andino, 40, and her daughter, Shey Carrasquillo, 19, each face up to 10 years on charges they stabbed their 24-year-old neighbor in the face, shoulder and arm, leaving a patchwork of staples and stitches on Jan. 11, 2010 — 10 days after they had verbally sparred over a parking spot Andino had saved with a pair of plastic Playskool tables.

Authorities said Andino pounded on neighbor Gloria Lugo's door, drawing her into their

McGreevey Way neighborhood, where a fight erupted. As Lugo pinned Andino to the ground, her daughter, Carrasquillo, screamed "Mommy, get up!" before plunging a screwdriver 6 centimeters into Lugo's shoulder, Lugo testified.

Stunned, Lugo backed away, allowing Andino to slice her in the face and then under her arm, opening a wound so deep, "tissue and fat" poured out in the middle of the street, said Suffolk Assistant District Attorney Lauren Greene, who called the assault a "random, senseless act."

But major points in the case seemed to melt away after Lugo, at times reduced to tears as she recalled the bloody tussle, became visibly aggravated during cross-examination by defense attorneys.

Lugo initially said she threw the first punch, only to backtrack that she first landed a blow after Andino swung her arms.

Then, when asked by the prosecutor to identify who stabbed



STAFF PHOTOS BY ANGELA ROWLINGS

'SENSELESS ACT': Gloria Lugo, who prosecutors say was stabbed in a dispute over a Mission Hill parking spot, testifies at Suffolk Superior Court while accused attackers Shey Carrasquillo, top left, and her mother, Carmen Andino, bottom left, look on.

her with the screwdriver, Lugo twice pointed out Andino — later saying the question confused her.

Lugo stunned even defense lawyers when during a heated exchange with attorney Arthur Kelly, she said she wished she brought her own "object" to defend herself.

"If I had intentions of coming to fight, I would have come down with something," Lugo said.

Lugo also said she never saw Andino wield a knife, though Greene told jurors in opening statements they would hear from witnesses who saw the defendant drop a bloody blade into a nearby sewer.

Andino declined comment after the hearing, but her lawyer, Craig Collins, said she is innocent and a victim of a "ferocious attack."

— matthew.stout@bostonherald.com

