

**News Release from**  
**The Honorable Sandra Doorley**  
**Monroe County District Attorney**

October 23, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Jonathan Morales Pleads Guilty to Manslaughter in the First Degree for the  
Death of Kirstie Slingerland**

Rochester, NY- On Wednesday, October 23, 2019, 25-year-old Jonathan Morales pled guilty to Manslaughter in the First Degree for the death of Kirstie Slingerland. As a result of his plea, he will serve 20 years in the New York State Department of Corrections.

On May 26, 2019 at approximately 3:30am, Morales struck Ms. Slingerland in the head causing her death then left her body at 367 Orchard Street in an empty industrial building. He subsequently fled to Florida where he was apprehended following a coordinated effort between the Orange County (FL) Sheriff's Office and the Major Crimes Unit of the Rochester Police Department.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Michael Bezer, Chief of the Economic Crimes Bureau.

"I want to thank the Rochester Police Department and the Orange County Sheriff's Office for their collaborative effort to detain this defendant," said Assistant District Attorney Michael Bezer. "With Jonathan Morales' admission of guilt, it is the hope of the Monroe County District Attorney's Office that the victim's family can have some peace of mind as they continue to heal from the loss of their loved one."

"Jonathan Morales had no regard for the life of Kirstie Slingerland or the lasting affects her death has had on her friends and family," said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. "The defendant will now serve a lengthy sentence in New York State Department of Corrections and will hopefully learn the value of human life."

Jonathan Morales will be sentenced on November 20, 2019, in front of Supreme Court Justice Renzi.

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