

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

November 7, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**James Krauseneck Sentenced to 25 Years to Life for the 1982 Ax Murder of
Cathleen Krauseneck**

Rochester, NY- Monday, November 7, 2022, New York State Supreme Court Justice Schiano sentenced 70-year-old James Krauseneck to 25 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections after his conviction of Murder in the 2nd Degree for the killing of his wife, Cathleen Krauseneck, on February 19, 1982.

On February 19, 1982, Brighton Police Officers arrived at the house on Del Rio Drive in the town of Brighton. Upon entering the house, investigators located the body of Cathleen Krauseneck, who was found deceased in her bed with an ax embedded in her head. Reports show that Cathleen was killed from a strike in the head with an ax while she slept.

Since 2015, Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley and investigators from the Monroe County District Attorney's Office worked with the Brighton Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the Monroe County Crime Lab, and Dr. Michael Baden to further review the case.

Upon a thorough and detailed investigation, James Krauseneck was indicted in November 2019 for the 1982 murder of Cathleen Krauseneck.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau and Special Assistant District Attorney Constance Patterson, of the Special Victims Unit.

“James Krauseneck took an ax from his garage and used it to strike Cathy Krauseneck’s head while she was asleep and now 40 years later, he will finally serve the life sentence that he deserves,” said Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher. “I want to thank Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley, Monroe County District Attorney Investigators Sam Soprano and Doug Boccardo, and Brighton Police Investigator Liberatore and Investigator Hunt for the incredible investigation that ultimately led to today’s maximum sentence. It has been an honor to help secure justice for Cathy and her family. While nothing can give Cathy back the past 40 years, Mr. Krauseneck will spend the rest of his life in the New York State Department of Corrections.”

“Today’s sentence is just, appropriate, and further proof that the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office will never give up on victims,” said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. “Twelve jurors agreed with prosecutors that James Krauseneck struck an ax into his wife’s head while she slept in 1982. Cathleen Krauseneck deserved her day in court and I could not be more proud of the investigators and attorneys in my office who helped to bring this to trial and hold James Krauseneck accountable for her murder. I am thankful that Cathleen’s family feels justice in today’s resolutions. 40 years later, her family can finally move on from this nightmare and continue their grief knowing that James Krauseneck will spend the rest of his days incarcerated.”

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