

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

June 21, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Joshua Burns Convicted of Murder in the Second Degree

Rochester, NY- Wednesday, June 20, 2018, a Monroe County Jury convicted 20-year-old Joshua Burns of Murder in the 2nd degree for the death of Jarvis Porter.

On December 25, 2017, Joshua Burns and co-defendant, Elzie James brought a loaded shotgun to an apartment building on Genesee Street in the City of Rochester. The defendants encountered the victim, Jarvis Porter, inside the building at which time the victim was shot in the face with the shotgun.

Elzie James pled to Manslaughter in the 1st Degree on May 31, 2018. The sentence promise for James is 25 years in New York State Department of Corrections with 5 years post release supervision. Joshua Burns faces a maximum of 25 years to life in the New York State Department of Corrections for Murder in the 2nd Degree.

The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant District Attorney Michael Harrigan and Senior Assistant District Attorney Michael Robertson of the Major Felony Bureau.

“Thanks to the thorough investigation conducted by the Rochester Police Department, both Joshua Burns and Elzie James are no longer a threat to our community,” said Assistant District Attorney Michael Harrigan. “On Christmas Day, 2017, the defendants carelessly and violently took the life of Jarvis Porter. Both Burns and James are now off of our streets serving lengthy prison sentences.”

“These defendants showed a complete disregard for human life,” said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. “This conviction is the result of the remarkable work of the Rochester Police Department and Assistant District Attorneys Michael Harrigan and Michael Robertson. We will continue to bring justice to the victims of violence in our community and hold those who commit these violent crimes responsible.”

Joshua Burns is on for sentencing on August 9, 2018 in front of County Court Judge Sam L. Valleriani.

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