

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

February 16, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Jury Finds Morris Jones, Jr. Guilty of Manslaughter in the 1st Degree and
Assault in the 2nd Degree**

Rochester, NY- Friday, February 16, 2024, a Monroe County Jury convicted 29-year-old Morris Jones, Jr. of Manslaughter in the 1st Degree and Assault in the 2nd Degree for the homicide of Keith Arnold and the stabbing of a second victim on June 6, 2021.

On June 6, 2021, at approximately 12:35AM, 26-year-old Keith Arnold walked into Highland Hospital with multiple stab wounds. He was transferred to Strong Memorial Hospital, where he died later that morning. Rochester Police Investigators determined that Keith Arnold was stabbed to death outside the Dragonfly Tavern on Park Avenue in the City of Rochester. During the same incident, a female victim was also stabbed.

After a thorough investigation by the Rochester Police Department, Morris Jones, Jr. was identified as one of the assailants responsible for Keith Arnold's death. Following the stabbing, he fled the state and was arrested in Dallas, Texas by the United States Marshals Fugitive Task Force.

Following Morris Jones, Jr.'s arrest, his brother, 26-year-old Michael Jones was also arrested for his role in the stabbing. Michael Jones was convicted by Monroe County Court Judge Karen Bailey Turner of Manslaughter in the 1st Degree following a bench trial. He was sentenced to 14 years in the New York State Department of Corrections.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Gregory Clark, Chief of the Public Integrity/Economic Crimes Bureau.

“What began as a bar fight quickly turned into a deadly homicide,” said Assistant District Attorney Gregory Clark. “Keith Arnold was out celebrating with his girlfriend when a brief confrontation led to his violent death. Both Morris Jones, Jr. and Michael Jones proved that they are dangerous individuals who do not value human life. I would like to thank the Rochester Police Department for their thorough investigation and the United States Marshals Task Force for the apprehension of Morris Jones, Jr. I am content that one more dangerous individual is unable to further promote violence in our community.”

“Morris Jones, Jr. did not hesitate before stabbing Keith Arnold,” said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. “The defendant, realizing his actions, fled the state instead of taking responsibility for Keith Arnold’s life. Today’s conviction is a much-needed resolution for the loved ones of Keith Arnold.”

Morris Jones, Jr. will be sentenced on March 21, 2024, in front of Monroe County Court Judge Karen Bailey Turner.

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