

MONROE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

WEEKLY BULLETIN

May, 1 2026



From Monroe County District Attorney Brian Green

Connecting with the young people in our community is one of the most meaningful investments we can make in the future of public safety and justice. When we take the time to engage with students, answer their questions, and share our experiences, we help build understanding, trust, and inspiration that can last a lifetime.



This week, I am proud to highlight several members of our office who did just that. Assistant District Attorney Drew Kroft of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau, Adriana Toth, the Legal Secretary for the Grand Jury Bureau, Lauren Sherwood, a Grand Jury Stenographer, and Investigator Jay Bushen represented our office at a career fair at the School Without Walls. They spoke with students in grades 9 through 12 about careers in the legal field, the education and training required, and the many different paths within the criminal justice system. I am grateful to Drew, Adriana, Lauren, and Jay for taking the time to inspire and mentor the next generation.



I also had the privilege of visiting Churchville-Chili Senior High School, where I spoke with students in Mr. Condello's Crime & Justice class. The students asked thoughtful, insightful questions and showed a genuine interest in the role of prosecutors. I always emphasize that our responsibility is simple in principle, but profound in practice: to do the right thing in every case. It was encouraging to see such engagement, and I hope to see many of those students in our courtrooms in the years ahead.



These connections matter. They strengthen our community today and help shape a better tomorrow.

Congratulations ADA Merrick Sadler!

Congratulations to Assistant District Attorney Merrick Sadler, Chief of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau, for receiving the Recognition of Excellence at the New York State Annual Law Enforcement Recognition Event in Albany. These awards honor law enforcement officers, district attorneys, and agencies for their dedicated work in impaired driving enforcement, prosecution as well as programs to help curtail impaired driving. Thank you to Mothers Against Drunk Driving, STOP-DWI New York and the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee for recognizing ADA Sadler with this well-deserved honor! Merrick was joined by Second Assistant District Attorney Michelle Crowley, and Lindsay Tomidy of Monroe County STOP-DWI.



Ongoing Trials

The People vs. **Kyshonn Green** will continue into next week

The defendant is charged with Murder in the 2nd Degree. This case is being tried before Monroe County Court Judge Douglas Randall and is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kevin Sunderland, Chief of the Local Courts Bureau, and Assistant District Attorney James Nguyen, of the Special Victims Unit.

Notable Court Appearances

A Monroe County Jury convicted 43-year-old **Soraya Rodriguez** of Attempted Murder in the 2nd Degree, Assault in the 1st Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree for climbing through a window and shooting another woman on September 18, 2025. On September 18, 2025, Rochester Police Officers responded to a report of a woman shot inside a home on Finch Street in the City of Rochester. Upon arrival, the officers were led to a 25-year-old woman who was suffering from life-threatening gunshot wounds. The victim was immediately transported to Strong Memorial Hospital, where the medical staff was able to save her life. After a thorough investigation by the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce, which includes Rochester Police Investigators, Monroe County District Attorney Investigators, and Assistant District Attorneys, it was determined that Soraya Rodriguez targeted the victim over a personal conflict, climbed through a window at the house on Finch Street, and shot the victim as she was lying in bed. Around two months later, Soraya Rodriguez was taken into custody in Buffalo by the United States Marshals Fugitive Task Force, before being returned to Monroe County to face her charges. The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant District Attorney Anthony Freeman, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce. Soraya Rodriguez will be sentenced on May 28, 2026 in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Victoria Argento.

26-year-old **Armon Benefield** was indicted on Murder in the 2nd Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Matthew Hogestyn of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

36-year-old **Eric Joseph** was indicted on Attempted Murder in the 2nd Degree, Assault in the 1st Degree, and Criminal Obstruction of Breathing or Blood Circulation. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kristina Hinkley, of the Special Victims Unit.

26-year-old **Luis Garcia** was indicted on Aggravated Criminal Contempt, thirteen counts of Aggravated Family Offense, Criminal Contempt in the 1st Degree, and three counts of Tampering With a Witness in the 4th Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jessica Wagner, Deputy Chief of the Special Victims Unit.

21-year-old **Charod Olson** was indicted on Strangulation in the 2nd Degree, Assault in the 3rd Degree, Assault in the 2nd Degree, and two counts of Menacing in the 2nd degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Janna Jehlen, of the Special Victims Unit.

25-year-old **Jermaine Brown, Jr.** was indicted on six counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, two counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd Degree, and Unlawful Fleeing a Police Officer in a Motor Vehicle in the 3rd Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Bridget Morgan, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

