

MONROE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

WEEKLY BULLETIN

June 26, 2026

From Monroe County District Attorney Brian Green

A Message to the Class of 2026



As graduation season comes to a close, I want to extend my sincere congratulations to the Class of 2026 on reaching this important milestone. Graduation represents the culmination of years of hard work, determination, and perseverance. More importantly, it marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter filled with opportunity.

Whether you are continuing your education, beginning a new career, serving your community, or pursuing another path, I encourage you to embrace the future with confidence and purpose. The decisions you make today will help shape the life you build tomorrow.

During this season of well-earned celebration, I also encourage every person to make safety a priority. Too often, a single decision, such as driving while impaired by drugs or alcohol, can change lives forever. Plan ahead, use a rideshare service, or call someone you trust for a ride. Looking out for yourself and your friends is one of the most important choices you can make, and it ensures these celebrations remain happy memories for years to come.

As you celebrate with family and friends, take pride in everything you have accomplished. Enjoy these well-earned moments, look out for one another, and make safe, thoughtful choices that will keep every opportunity within reach. Your future is bright, and our community is stronger because of the next generation of leaders, professionals, public servants, and neighbors stepping forward.

On behalf of everyone at the Monroe County District Attorney's Office, congratulations to the Class of 2026. We wish you continued success, happiness, and fulfillment as you begin this exciting journey.



In the Courtroom

27-year-old **Destiny Cotto** and 20-year-old **Jaquez Riley-Hill** were indicted on Murder in the 2nd Degree, two counts of Robbery in the 1st Degree, and Robbery in the 2nd Degree. Jaquez Riley-Hill was also indicted on an additional count of Murder in the 2nd Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney [Adam VanHeyst](#), Chief of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce, and Assistant District Attorney [Ryan Mulcahy](#), of the Major Felony Bureau.

58-year-old **Wayne Plummer** was indicted on three counts Rape in the 3rd Degree and two counts of Sexual Abuse in the 3rd Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney [Mikael Pelkey](#), of the Special Victims Unit.

37-year-old **Justin Griffin** was indicted on Strangulation in the 2nd Degree, two counts of Assault in the 3rd Degree, and two counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney [Kenisha Flowers](#), of the Special Victims Unit.

New York State Supreme Court Justice Victoria Argento sentenced 43-year-old **Soraya Rodriguez** to 25 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. The defendant was previously convicted 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, 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, 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. The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant District Attorney [Anthony Freeman](#), of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

Monroe County Court Judge Michael Dollinger convicted 43-year-old **Rajab Banahi** of three counts of Murder in the 1st Degree and Aggravated Criminal Contempt for the murders of Ali Banahi, Mastoora Banahi, and Masuda Banahi. On January 11, 2023, at approximately 4:45 p.m., Monroe County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a 911 call from Rajab Banahi, who informed dispatchers that he had stabbed members of his family at a residence on Kathy Drive in the Town of Henrietta. Upon arrival, deputies found the defendant's father, Ali Banahi, and the defendant's mother, Mastoora Banahi, deceased inside the home with multiple stab wounds and blunt force trauma. The defendant's sister, Masuda Banahi, was also found suffering from life-threatening stab wounds and blunt force trauma. Masuda Banahi was immediately transported to Strong Memorial Hospital, where she later died from her injuries. Rajab Banahi was taken into custody at the scene. The Monroe County Sheriff's Office conducted an extensive investigation into this violent crime. As a result of that investigation, Rajab Banahi was charged with three counts of Murder in the 1st Degree for the murders of his father, mother, and sister. The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney [Patrick Gallagher](#), Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau, and Assistant District Attorney [Michael Harrigan](#), Chief of the Major Felony Bureau.

20-year-old **Dhymere Bailey** pled guilty to Murder in the 2nd Degree for killing Sandra Blanding. At approximately 7:00 a.m. on March 19, 2025, Rochester Police Officers responded to a vacant house on Spencer Street in the City of Rochester. Upon arrival, officers discovered 39-year-old Sandra Blanding deceased on the sidewalk in front of a vacant house. The victim had sustained multiple gunshot wounds to the upper body. Following a thorough investigation, Rochester Police Department detectives determined that Dhymere Bailey was responsible for the murder of Sandra Blanding. Dhymere Bailey was arrested on March 21, 2025, by the Rochester Police Department's Tactical Unit and SWAT Team. The defendant initially fled from the police, but was swiftly apprehended. The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney [Kevin Sunderland](#), Chief of the Local Courts Bureau, and Assistant District Attorney [Diane Orosz-Roy](#).

38-year-old **Aneka Connor** pled guilty to the indictment, which included charges of Manslaughter in the 2nd Degree, Reckless Endangerment in the 2nd Degree, and Endangering the Welfare of a Child. This comes from October 10, 2025, when the defendant's actions resulted in the death of her 16-year-old son, Ca'hry Gibson. This case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney [Aaron Rath](#), of the Special Investigations Bureau.

