

**Monroe County
District Attorney
Sandra Doorley**

December 13, 2024



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**Monroe County
District Attorney's Office**

Weekly Newsletter



Welcome to the weekly newsletter from Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley.

Lights on for Life and Vehicular Crimes

Last weekend, I attended an event that is near and dear to me, the Annual Lights of for Life Motorcade!

I have attended this event since taking over as Chief of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau (the then titled Felony DWI Bureau) over twenty years ago. This event is a tradition to remember the many victims of impaired driving and to remind our community to make smart decisions before driving this holiday season. Remember, when you feel different, you drive different! Thank you to the STOP-DWI team for always putting on this important awareness campaign.



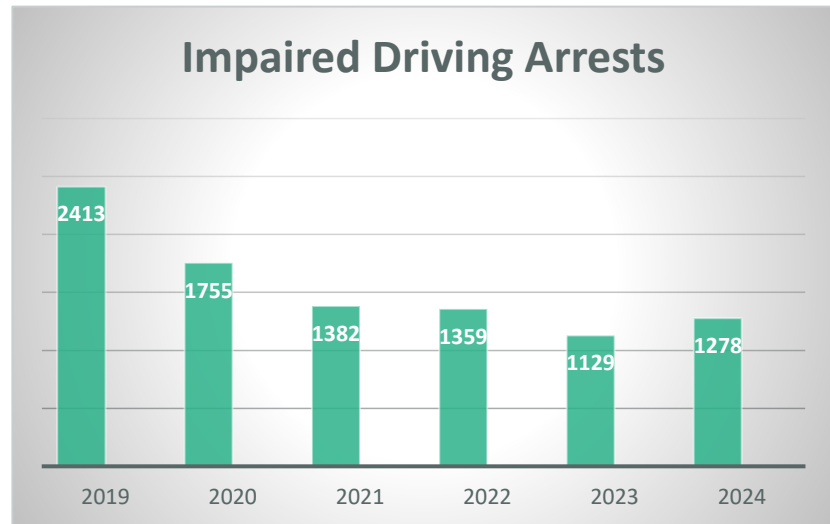
There is an old law enforcement saying, when enforcement is down, crashes are up. Let's look at our arrests compared to crashes in Monroe County over the past five years.

Homicide Update

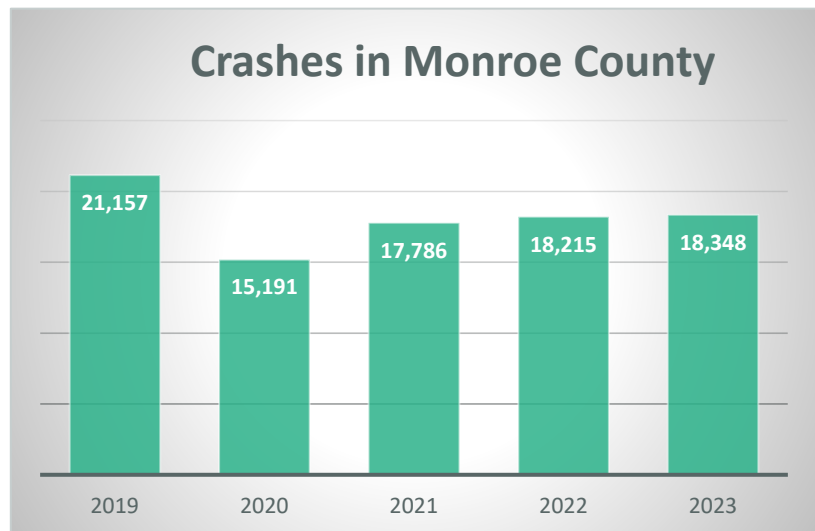
To Date 2024:

City of Rochester Total:
47

Monroe County Total: 56



The chart above lists the number of misdemeanor and felony DWI related arrests in Monroe County between January 1 – November 30 for comparison purposes. As you can see, arrests in 2024 are nearly half of 2019, with a slight increase since 2023. These numbers do not account for stolen car arrests. This data comes from our internal case management system.



Listed above, is data from the New York State Department of Transportation on crashes in Monroe County since 2019. While there was a steep drop-off from 2019 to 2020 (likely due to less drivers on the road), there has been a clear increase in car crashes over the past four years. Arrests are down. Crashes are up. Unfortunately, the age old saying fits, when enforcement is down, crashes are up.

Police need to be able to do their jobs. They need the resources from New York State and their communities to patrol and make our roadways safe. We must support their efforts and give them the tools they need for enforcement.

I cannot discuss roadway safety and Lights on for Life without talking about my Chief of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau, Raymond Benitez. He has joined me at this event since taking his position as the Chief of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau twelve years ago. With a planned retirement, this is Ray's last Lights on for Life in this capacity, but I have a feeling he will still be involved!



Thank you to Ray, STOP-DWI, law enforcement, and the many advocates who are out there every day promoting safety on our roads. Our community is safer because of you.

Sandra

Unsealed Indictment

Earlier this week, an indictment was unsealed in the 2022 Illinois Street Homicide.

Monroe County Court Judge Morrison unsealed an indictment charging 32-year-old **Martin Gibson** with Murder in the 2nd Degree for the December 13, 2022, homicide of Jahkeem Douglas. Also in the indictment, Martin Gibson and codefendant **Davonte Lippens** were indicted on various assault, weapons, and narcotics charges.

This arrest came from the hard work of the Rochester Police Department and the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce, especially Assistant District Attorney Merrick Sadler. The investigators and ADA Sadler did not give up on this case and worked for years until the defendants were identified and apprehended. The Monroe County District Attorney's Office looks forward to finding justice for Jahkeem Douglas.



Highlights from the MCDA's Office

The jury is out for the People vs. **Malik Black**. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Hillary Langdon and Assistant District Attorney Aaron Rath, both of the Special Victims Unit. The defendant is charged with Murder in the 1st Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Renzi.

41-year-old **Vidal Whitley** was convicted by a Monroe County jury of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree. On June 16, 2023, the defendant was arrested for the possession of an illegal firearm and a large capacity ammunition feeding device. This case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Mulcahy, of the Special Investigations Bureau. Vidal Whitley will be sentenced on February 24, 2025, in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Moran.

33-year-old **Jerome Walker** was convicted by a Monroe County jury of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree. On May 2, 2024, the defendant discarded an illegally possessed firearm in an attempt to evade law enforcement in the area of Joseph Avenue and Wilkins Street in the City of Rochester. The case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Bridget Morgan, of the Special Investigations Bureau. Jerome Walker will be sentenced on February 18, 2025, in front of Monroe County Court Judge Randall.

39-year-old **Devon Miller** was convicted by a Monroe County jury of Robbery in the 2nd Degree. This conviction comes from February 14, 2024, when the defendant forcibly stole property from an employee at Halal Market, armed with a BB gun. He will be sentenced by New York State Supreme Court Justice Schiano on January 31, 2025 in front of Monroe County Court Judge Hahn. This case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aliyah Fowler, of the Major Felony Bureau.

41-year-old **Jason Dickerson** was convicted by a Monroe County jury of Aggravated Criminal Contempt, Intimidating a Victim or Witness, Criminal Obstruction of Breathing, two counts of Menacing in the 2nd Degree, Assault in the 3rd Degree, and three counts of Criminal Contempt in the 2nd Degree. This case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kenisha Flowers, of the Special Victims Unit. Jason Dickerson will be sentenced on February 14, 2024, in front of Monroe County Court Judge Hahn.

Tyrellis Austin was indicted on four counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree, and Burglary in the 2nd Degree in relation to illegal possession of firearms and a burglary on November 18, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney James Nguyen, of the Special Victims Unit.

Brandon Hughes-Caswell was indicted on Aggravated Family Offense in relation to a violation of an order of protection on November 23, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

Deshawn Walters was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on August 16, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Anthony Freeman, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

Brian Alston was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of a firearm on September 20, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Merrick Sadler, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

Preston Jackson was indicted on two counts of Rape in the 1st Degree, two counts of Assault in the 2nd Degree, Criminal Obstruction of Breathing or Blood Circulation, and Assault in the 3rd Degree in relation to a sexual assault. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jessica Wagner, of the Special Victims Unit.

Shaiquan Reeves was indicted on Robbery in the 1st Degree, two counts of Robbery in the 2nd Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, Grand Larceny in the 4th Degree, and Assault in the 2nd Degree in relation to a shooting and robbery on October 5, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Anthony Freeman, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

Darryl Starks was indicted on four counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, three counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree, Criminal Possession of a Firearm, and three counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Stephen Ryck, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Jack Washington was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm and narcotics on November 22, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Michael Caranante, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Michael Kearney was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm and narcotics on November 26, 2024. In the same indictment, **Jamell Wilson** was charged with Robbery in the 3rd Degree in relation to stealing property from M&T Bank. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Tony DiPerna, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Jeremiah Osbey was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on November 18, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Ryan Lamon, of the Youth Part/Major Felony Bureau.

Demaria Brown was indicted on two counts of Robbery in the 2nd Degree, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 3rd Degree, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 4th Degree, and Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 3rd Degree in relation a car theft on November 18, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Matthew Schiano, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Samuel Lee was indicted on Attempted Robbery in the 1st Degree and Burglary in the 2nd Degree in relation to a burglary at a Home Depot on November 19, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ellie Laloudakis, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Christopher Weber was indicted on two counts of Assault in the 2nd Degree, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 3rd Degree, and Reckless Endangerment in the 2nd Degree in relation to an assault on June 5, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jonathan Jirik, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

MCDA in the News

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/watch-live-rpd-will-give-update-on-2022-mass-shooting-at-11-a-m/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/rpd-will-release-significant-update-in-deadly-illinois-st-shooting/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/a-rochester-family-reacts-to-finally-getting-justice-two-years-after-the-mass-shooting-two-arrests-made-for-2022-mass-fatal-deadly-shooting-at-airbnb-in-rochester-illinois-street-rap-video-guns-drugs-search-warrant>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2024/12/13/martin-gibson-davonte-lippens-charged-deadly-rochester-ny-shooting/76942441007/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/two-arrests-made-for-2022-mass-fatal-deadly-shooting-at-airbnb-in-rochester-illinois-street-rap-video-guns-drugs-search-warrant>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/local/2024/12/13/over-dose-deaths-increase-as-monroe-county-reports-512-for-2023/76827484007/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/teen-charged-with-making-terroristic-threat-against-fairport-high-school-in-october/>

<https://wham1180.iheart.com/content/2024-12-12-fairport-teen-accused-of-threatening-school/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/monroe-county-sheriffs-office/teen-faces-felony-charge-after-online-threat-targeting-fairport-high-school/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/teen-arrested-for-fairport-high-school-anonymous-social-media-threat-perinton-monroe-county-sheriffs-office-police>

<https://www.wxnews.org/local-news/2024-12-11/fairport-student-arrested-charged-with-felony-for-alleged-terroristic-threat-on-high-school>