

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley

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Monroe County District Attorney's Office

Weekly Newsletter



DISTRICT ATTORNEY
SANDRA DOORLEY

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

The Rochester Police Department 40th Annual Awards Celebration

On Wednesday, I joined Rochester Police Officers, their family and supporters, and members of my staff at the 40th Annual Awards Celebration hosted by the Rochester Police Department and the Rochester Police Locust Club.



We heard stories from heroic Rochester Police Officers from the past year. These include the many commendations for life-saving tactics and distinguished service.

I want to take a minute to highlight Officer of the Year, Officer Marc Sutton and Investigator of the Year, Investigator Karyn Bower. These two Rochester Police Officers truly define the high standards of the Rochester Police Department. Officer Sutton and Investigator Bower truly embody the values of RPD: Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Dedication, and Excellence.

I was especially honored to receive the Public Safety Partner of the Year Award alongside my First Assistant District Attorney, Perry Duckles for the successful prosecution of Kelvin Vickers, who was convicted for the murder of Rochester Police Officer Anthony Mazurkiewicz and attempted murder of Rochester Police Officer Sino Seng. I was especially touched that my friend, and widow of Officer Mazurkiewicz, Lynn Mazurkiewicz presented this award to us.



Let me tell you a little bit about Lynn. In July 2022, Lynn suffered the greatest tragedy of her life. She lost her life partner, her children lost their father, and her grandchildren lost their grandpa. Lynn took her darkest days and turned that to advocacy for the Rochester Police Department and continues to honor Tony each and every day. Lynn has an amazing sense of humor and brings comfort to everyone around her. I wish I had only met Lynn in different circumstances, but she is a powerhouse and turned her grief into strength.

Homicide Update

To Date 2024:

City of Rochester Total:
20

Monroe County Total: 21

Strength for her family, strength for her community, and strength for the Rochester Police Department. I am proud to call her my friend.

The Rochester Police Locust Club renamed their scholarship the Anthony Mazurkiewicz Scholarship, ensuring that his name will always live on with deserving students.

Perry and I are very grateful to accept this award but at the end of the day, we were doing our job. The same way Rochester Police Officers are out doing their job every single day. I cannot emphasize enough my admiration for these men and women. I know firsthand how hard they work to keep our city safe. Officer Daryl Pierson, Officer Anthony Mazurkiewicz, and their families are solemn reminders that we cannot take their work and bravery for granted.

Thank you to the Rochester Police Department, you are my heroes.

Sandra

Highlights from the MCDA's Office

New York State Supreme Court Justice Schiano sentenced 39-year-old **Damien Spears** to 20 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections. He was previously convicted by a Monroe County jury of two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree. On June 25, 2022, Webster Police Officers were called to Lake Road for shots fired at two individuals. After a diligent and thorough investigation by the Webster Police Department and the New York State Division of Parole, Damien Spears, who was on parole at the time of the shooting, was identified as the shooter. It was determined that Damien Spears, who was wearing a GPS ankle monitor, shot an illegal firearm at two individuals following an altercation at a stoplight. The victims were innocent and unknown to the defendant. This case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Timothy Boucher of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Monroe County Court Judge sentenced 53-year-old **Jeff Eden** to 1-3 years in the New York State Department of Corrections. Jeff Eden previously pled guilty to Vehicular Manslaughter in the 2nd Degree and DWI for hitting Gene Kulp with his tractor trailer and killing him on September 5, 2023. This case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Tony DiPerna, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

The jury is out in the People vs. **Desmond O'Neill**. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Kevin Sunderland of the Special Victims Unit. The defendant is charged with three counts of Predatory Sexual Assault Against a Child and Endangering the Welfare of a Child in front of Monroe County Court Judge Randall.

Darien Raforth was indicted on Burglary in the 3rd Degree in relation to a burglary at a Home Depot on March 2, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Angela Carson, of the General Felony Bureau.

Travis Brongo was indicted on three counts of Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 4th Degree, Grand Larceny in the 4th Degree, and Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 3rd Degree in relation to the possession of stolen items from multiple individuals in the towns of Gates, Greece, and Chili. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Courtney Kleiman, of the General Felony Bureau.

Antonio Alicea was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on May 2, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Tony DiPerna, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Teisland Vennor 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 May 5, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Tony DiPerna, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Antonio Mathis was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on December 15, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Mulcahy, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Raymeis Ricotta was indicted on Grand Larceny in the 2nd Degree, Burglary in the 3rd Degree, Reckless Endangerment in the 1st Degree, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 3rd Degree, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 4th Degree, and Unauthorized Use Vehicle: Without Owner Consent, in relation to multiple thefts from a car dealership during December 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Diana Ferretti, of the General Felony Bureau.

Korey Weaver was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on May 10, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Tony DiPerna, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Anthony Johnson was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on May 12, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Michael Caranante, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Christopher Myers was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Obstruction of Breathing or Blood Circulation in relation to the illegal possession of a firearm and physical altercation on May 13, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kaylee Rizzari, of the Special Victims Unit.

Jerome Walker was indicted 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 May 2, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Bridget Morgan, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Jariel Ramos was indicted on Grand Larceny in the 3rd Degree, Criminal Mischief in the 2nd Degree, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 3rd Degree, Grand Larceny in the 4th Degree, and Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 4th Degree in relation to the possession and damage of Rochester Police Department property on May 15, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ellie Laloudakis, of the Youth Part/Major Felony Bureau.

Eddie Porter, Jr. was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, Menacing in the 2nd Degree, and Assault in the 3rd Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on May 15, 2024, and a domestic related incident that occurred on May 12, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Karen Chung, of the Special Victims Unit.

Warren Jones was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and two counts of Assault in the 2nd Degree in relation to a shooting on March 30, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Adam VanHeyst, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

Kaia Clapgood was indicted on two counts of Assault in the 2nd Degree in relation to the armed assault of an individual on May 15, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Megan Hausner, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Congratulations Attorneys!

Congratulations to ADA Carrington Wells, ADA Kayleigh Wurz, and ADA Amy Crosier for being admitted to the New York State Bar. All three attorneys are working in the Monroe County District Attorney's Office Local Courts Bureau and are doing great!



MCDA in the News

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/drunk-driver-gets-1-to-3-years-for-deadly-crash-as-victims-family-continues-justice-for-gene/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/news/man-pleads-guilty-to-vehicular-manslaughter-after-september-fatal-crash-on-lexington-ave/>

<https://wham1180.iheart.com/content/2024-05-28-driver-sentenced-in-fatal-lexington-ave-crash/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/man-sentenced-to-1-3-years-in-prison-in-deadly-drunk-driving-crash-on-lexington-avenue-rochester-jeff-eden-gene-kulp-vehicular-manslaughter-dwi>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/rochester/family-of-rochester-man-killed-by-drunk-driver-speak-out-after-sentencing/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/defense-argues-juror-was-asleep-during-sex-abuse-trial-of-kirk-ashton/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/defense-appeal-juror-fell-asleep-during-readback-of-testimony-during-kirk-ashton-trial-northwood-elementary-school-hilton-greece-rochester-child-sex-abuse>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/defense-attorney-for-ex-hilton-principal-convicted-of-sexually-abusing-students-argues-sleeping-juror-compromised-trial/>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2024/05/29/robert-petit-accused-of-inappropriately-touching-students-wheatland-chili-school-district-new-york/73889789007/>

<https://www.whec.com/local/former-wheatland-chili-teacher-accused-of-inappropriately-touching-students/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/wheatland-chili-substitute-teacher-accused-of-inappropriately-touching-three-elementary-school-students-scottsville>



We are hiring attorneys! If you are a recent law school graduate or an experienced attorney and are interested in a career in criminal law and public service, apply with us today! More information is available on monroecounty.gov/da.