

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley

June 27, 2025



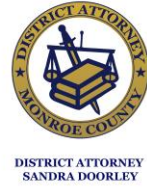
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Monroe County District Attorney's Office

Weekly Newsletter



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

Commitment to Attorney Training

At the Monroe County District Attorney's Office, we are budgeted for 96 attorneys, ranging from seasoned prosecutors with over 30 years of experience to recent law school graduates. We take great pride in training our newest attorneys, not only in the practice of law but also in the ethical responsibilities that come with being a prosecutor.

While we place a strong emphasis on supporting our newest hires, ongoing training is essential for every attorney in our office—including myself, with 34 years of experience. Although all attorneys admitted to the New York State Bar must complete 24 Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits, prosecutors bear an even greater responsibility to stay informed on legal developments, prosecution trends, and the ever-changing landscape of New York State law. I'd like to take a moment to highlight some of the trainings my staff and I have participated in over the past two weeks.

This week, I attended the annual District Attorneys Association of the State of New York (DAASNY) Summer Conference. This gathering brings together elected District Attorneys from across the state to share insights on legislative priorities, new laws, and emerging trends in prosecution. Topics discussed included recruitment and retention challenges, the newly enacted discovery statutes in the state budget, updates from the Division of Criminal Justice Services, and ongoing training initiatives.

Here in Monroe County, we were proud to host a week-long Lethal Weapon Training for prosecutors from across New York State, including attorneys from our own Vehicular Crimes Bureau. This intensive program featured expert instruction in collision reconstruction, speed analysis, pedestrian-related crashes, victim interaction, and more. It also included trial workshops and sessions focused on victims' rights and advocacy. A special thank you to Suffolk County ADA Maureen McCormick for bringing this important training to our community.

Homicide Update

To Date 2025:

City of Rochester Total:
16

Monroe County Total: 18

I also want to give a special thank you to Henry and Magdalia Rivera for sharing their experience. They spoke about their 18-year-old son, Henry Rivera, Jr., whose life was lost at the hands of a drugged driver. Joined by ADA Merrick Sadler, Chief of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau, and Carrie Noble, Director of the Victim/Witness Bureau, they discussed the importance of victim communication and how they turned their tragedy into advocacy.



In addition, two of our Assistant District Attorneys recently attended specialized training programs that further their expertise in complex areas of prosecution:

- *Assistant District Attorney Christopher Folk, also of the Major Felony Bureau, attended Advanced Digital Evidence for Prosecutors, a program hosted and paid for by the National Computer Forensics Institute (NCFI). Sponsored by the U.S. Secret Service, Department of Homeland Security, and the Alabama District Attorney's Association, NCFI provides state and local prosecutors with vital training in computer forensics and digital evidence.*
- *Assistant District Attorney Ryan Lamon, of the Major Felony Bureau, attended a course hosted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives titled "Arson and Explosives Class for Prosecutors." This training provided cutting-edge information on investigative techniques and legal strategies related to arson and explosive-related crimes.*



As prosecutors, we must never stop learning. Our work demands continuous growth, curiosity, and commitment. I'm incredibly proud of the attorneys in my office for their dedication to professional development and their willingness to embrace new ideas, skills, and techniques in the pursuit of justice.

Sandra

Former Irondequoit Town Assessor Charged

Anthony Costanza was charged with Official Misconduct and violations of Irondequoit Town Codes, including Conflicts of Interest, Recusal and Abstention, and Prohibition on Use of Municipal Position for Personal or Private Gains. These charges are in relation to actions he took on April 9, 2024, during his time as the Irondequoit Town Assessor. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Greg Clark, Chief of the Public Corruption/Economic Crimes Bureau and Assistant District Attorney Caroline Rodriguez, also of the Public Corruption/Economic Crimes Bureau.

Rochester Woman Arrested for Theft of Pension Payments

New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley and New York State Police Superintendent Steven G. James announced the arrest of a 68-year-old Rochester woman for allegedly stealing \$12,973 in state pension payments sent to her deceased mother. The defendant, **Karen Walsh**, was arraigned in Monroe County Centralized Arraignment Court on a charge of grand larceny in the third degree before Judge Cook.

"Ms. Walsh allegedly tried to steal funds she was not entitled to from the state's pension system," DiNapoli said. "My office is committed to protecting the pension system, its members and their beneficiaries. My thanks to District Attorney Doorley and the New York State Police for their partnership in ensuring justice is served."

"The defendant abused the New York State pension system, which is a crime against the taxpayers of the State of New York and a slap in the face to all of the public servants who dedicated their careers to serving our community," said Doorley. "These types of crimes are a betrayal to all of the hardworking taxpayers who reside in New York State. I want to thank the State Comptroller's Office and the New York State Police for leading this investigation and sharing our commitment to take economic crimes seriously. We are fully prepared to prosecute this case and deliver the accountability New Yorkers deserve."

“Theft from the state’s pension system is not just a financial crime, it’s a betrayal of public trust,” **James** said. “I commend the investigators from the State Comptroller’s Office and our members who worked closely with the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office to bring this case forward. The New York State Police will continue to support efforts to uncover fraud and hold those responsible accountable.”

Walsh’s mother, also of Rochester, received a monthly payment as the beneficiary of her deceased husband’s state pension. When she passed away in 2020, her pension payments should have stopped, but the pension system was not notified of her death until April 2022. The payments were then halted and DiNapoli’s office launched an investigation.

The investigation determined that after Walsh’s mother’s death, 18 direct deposits totaling \$19,524 went to her bank account. Walsh allegedly stole \$12,973 by withdrawing \$4,333 from the account and transferring \$8,600 to a second account in her mother’s name to which she also had access. She wrote checks from that second account, forging her deceased mother’s name and endorsing the back of the checks with her own signature, before depositing them into her own account. Walsh also used the second account in her mother’s name to make personal credit card payments, pay for home improvements and buy groceries.

Highlights from the MCDA’s Office

40-year-old **Evan Guzman** pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1st Degree, for causing the death of Ted Morris. On July 5, 2021, Rochester Police Officers responded to an apartment on Resolute Circle around 8:00AM for a welfare check. Upon arrival, they found 52-year-old Ted Morris, who was deceased with multiple stab wounds. Following a swift investigation by the Rochester Police Department, Evan Guzman was identified for stabbing the victim. Within hours from the discovery of a deceased Mr. Morris, Evan Guzman was arrested. Detectives determined that Evan Guzman knocked on Ted Morris’ door earlier in the morning. As soon as the victim opened the door, Evan Guzman stabbed him then fled the scene. Evan Guzman will be sentenced to 25 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Bianca D’Angelo, Chief of the General Felony Bureau.

Monroe County Court Judge Dollinger sentenced 28-year-old **Eliezar Ortiz** to a total of 23 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. Eliezar Ortiz was previously convicted by a jury of three counts of Attempted Murder in the 2nd Degree, two counts of Assault in the 1st Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree for the shooting of Ricardo Lewis and Elaine Lewis on May 1, 2024. The defendant was sentenced to 23 years in the New York state Department of Corrections for each count of Attempted Murder in the 2nd Degree and each count of Assault in the 1st Degree in addition to 15 years for both counts Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, all to run concurrent. On May 1, 2024, Greece Police Officers responded to a report of a female shot on Britton Road in the Town of Greece. Upon arrival, it was determined that there were two gunshot victims, a male and female, 36-year-old Elaine Lewis had been struck in the chest and abdomen and 39-year-old Ricardo Lewis was struck in the buttocks. After a thorough investigation by the Greece Police Department, with the assistance of the Rochester Police Department, it was determined that the victims' son had a verbal argument during gym class at school with another student over a game of basketball. A second physical altercation between the two students took place after school that same day at a bus stop. Later that afternoon, in an act of retaliation, the student, accompanied by Eliezar Ortiz, arrived at the victims' residence. Eliezar Ortiz then fired multiple shots into the second floor of the home, striking Ricardo and Elaine Lewis. Upon arrival of police and EMS, the victims were quickly transported to Strong Memorial Hospital, where they each underwent multiple extensive surgeries to save their lives. While both survived the brutal attack, tragically, their unborn child did not survive the injuries sustained by Elaine in the shooting. On June 26, 2024, Eliezar Ortiz was arrested for the shooting. The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm and Special Assistant District Attorney Aliyah Fowler both of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

27-year-old **Terry Cordae** was sentenced by Monroe County Court Judge Ansaldi to 10 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. He was previously convicted by a jury of Robbery in the 1st Degree. On August 21, 2024, the victim was contacted by Terry Cordae under a false identity on Facebook Marketplace, regarding the sale of the victim's vehicle. A meeting was arranged to inspect the car and take it to a mechanic. Upon the victim's arrival, Cordae brandished a firearm, threatening the victim's life. Ten days later, the stolen vehicle was discovered just 30 feet from the defendant's location. A subsequent search connected the defendant to the robbery. This case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jonathan Jirik, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Anthony Lamar Robinson, Jr. was indicted on Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 4th Degree and Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 3rd Degree in relation to the possession of a stolen vehicle on July 29, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Terance Calcagno, of the General Felony Bureau.

Manuel Parker and **De'Marius Smullen** were indicted on two counts of Burglary in the 1st Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree. Manuel Parker was also indicted on Robbery in the 1st Degree, Robbery in the 2nd Degree, two counts of Assault in the 2nd Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree. De'Marius Smullen was also indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Stephen Ryck, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Ashlee Kunzer was indicted on two counts of Driving While Intoxicated in relation to two vehicular incidents on January 30, 2025 and March 16, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Drew Kroft, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Asia Johnson was indicted on Assault in the 2nd Degree, nine counts of Aggravated Family Offense, and five counts of Criminal Contempt in the 1st Degree in relation to a domestic assault and several violations of an order of protection during the months of May and June. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kenisha Flowers, of the Special Victims Unit.

Andrew Scheutzow was indicted on Driving While Intoxicated in relation to a vehicular incident on July 28, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Drew Kroft, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Jahmere Keyshard Hicks was indicted on Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 3rd Degree and Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 3rd Degree in relation to the possession of a stolen vehicle on December 31, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Angela Carson, of the General Felony Bureau.

Michael Woods was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of a firearm on June 4, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Nico Gonzalez, of the General Felony Bureau.

Josue Diaz 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 an illegal possession of a firearm on June 8, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Mulcahy, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Xavion Griffin was indicted on Rape in the 1st Degree, Sexual Abuse in the 1st Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to a sexual assault on April 13, 2025 and the illegal possession of a firearm on June 4, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Courtney Kleiman, of the Special Victims Unit.

Jordan Figueroa-Olivo was indicted on Manslaughter in the 2nd Degree, four counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Firearm in relation to the death of Delwin Aponte-Charbonier on May 31, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Mikael Pelkey, of the Special Victims Unit.

Anthony Caceres was indicted on Menacing a Police Officer or Peace Officer and Criminal Possession of a Firearm for allegedly pointing shotgun at a New York State Police Trooper. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Adam VanHeyst, Deputy Chief of the General Felony Bureau.

Ja'Mear Stallings was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Reckless Endangerment in the 1st Degree. **Velquez Dennis** was indicted on Assault in the 2nd Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree. Both of these defendants are charged in relation to a shooting on April 28, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Matthew Hogestyn, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

Robert Zambito was indicted on Burglary in the 3rd Degree in relation to a burglary at a Home Depot on March 4, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Caroline Rodriguez, of the Public Integrity/Economic Crimes Bureau.

Terrance Odum, Jr. was indicted on Criminal Contempt in the 1st Degree and four counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child in relation to a violation of an order of protection on May 20, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Janna Jehlen, of the Special Victims Unit.

Edward Toliver, Jr. was indicted on Burglary in the 1st Degree, Assault in the 2nd Degree, Aggravated Criminal Contempt, Criminal Contempt in the 1st Degree, Assault in the 3rd Degree, and two counts of Criminal Mischief in the 4th Degree in relation to a domestic related burglary on May 16, 2025, and a domestic incident on March 27, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jessica Wagner, of the Special Victims Unit.

Ernest Gamble and **Lashar McMiller** were indicted two five counts of Robbery in the 2nd Degree in relation to the robbery of two people on May 25, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Christopher Folk, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Kavin Rowe was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 4th Degree, and three counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2nd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of narcotics on April 1, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Mulcahy, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Richmond Sutton 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 illegal possession of a weapon on February 20, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aaron Rath, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Brooke Irene Brown was indicted on Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated With a Child Passenger, two counts of Driving While Ability Impaired by Drugs, Driving While Ability Impaired by the Combined Influence of Drugs or of Alcohol and any Drug or Drugs, and Endangering the Welfare of a Child in relation to a vehicular incident on October 2, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Karen Chung, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Krista Kiblin was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the 2nd Degree and two counts of Identity Theft in the 1st Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Amy Crosier, of the Public Integrity/Economic Crimes Bureau.

Robert Jenkins was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of a firearm on April 29, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Mulcahy, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Joseph Battaglia was indicted on Burglary in the 2nd Degree in relation to a burglary on June 7, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Lamon, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Reginald Sampson was indicted on Attempted Murder in the 2nd Degree, Robbery in the 1st Degree, three counts of Criminal Possession of Weapon in the 2nd Degree, Assault in the 2nd Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to a shooting and robbery on May 10, 2025 and an illegal weapons possession on May 29, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Anthony Freeman, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

Michelle Delvecchio was indicted on Burglary in the 3rd Degree and Petit Larceny in relation to a burglary at a Wegmans on January 5, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney William Jenkins, of the General Felony Bureau.

Handy Slade was indicted on Grand Larceny in the 4th Degree in relation to a theft from a Marshall's on June 12, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney William Jenkins, of the General Felony Bureau.

MCDA in the Community

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley joined the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Commissioner Rossana Rosado for a discussion of the State's latest public safety and criminal justice efforts for the Finger Lakes and Western New York regions. DA Doorley shared information on gun arrests and statistics from the Non-Fatal Shooting initiative.



MCDA in the News

<https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/rochester/news/2025/06/15/monroe-county-da-touts-gun-violence-prevention-strategies->

<https://www.whec.com/local/man-found-guilty-of-sexual-abuse-of-4-year-old/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/rochester-man-found-guilty-of-sexual-abuse-of-4-year-old/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/man-convicted-of-sexually-abusing-4-year-old-at-rochester-home-ilijah-kates-criminal-sexual-act-assault-strong-memorial-hospital>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/suspect-will-serve-20-years-after-deadly-shooting-of-teen-on-nassau-st/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-sentenced-to-prison-for-deadly-shooting-involving-teenager-on-nassau-street/>

<https://13wham.com/newsletter-daily/man-sentenced-for-fatally-shooting-teen-in-rochester-before-fleeing-state-jymere-feliciano-jaden-scott-nassau-street-monroe-county-georgia>



<https://www.whec.com/top-news/rochester-woman-accused-of-stealing-nearly-13000-in-pension-payments/>

<https://www.fingerlakesdailynews.com/regional-state-congressional/rochester-woman-accused-of-stealing-12k-in-state-pension-funds>

<https://cbs6albany.com/news/local/rochester-woman-charged-with-stealing-13000-in-pension-payments-cbs6-wrgb>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/local/2025/06/25/anthony-costanza-former-irondequoit-assessor-faces-misconduct-claim/84331153007/?tbref=hp>