

# Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley

July 18, 2025



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Monroe County District  
Attorney's Office

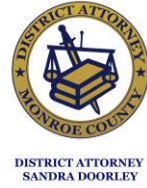
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## Monroe County District Attorney's Office

### Weekly Newsletter



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

#### 6 Months of Homicide Resolutions

*Even after more than 30 years in the Monroe County District Attorney's Office, the pain of each homicide never fades. Every time I am informed that another life has been taken, I feel the weight of that loss — for the victim, for their family, and for the community that suffers yet another wound.*

*The trauma of gun violence and senseless killings has left a lasting scar on the City of Rochester, and in recent years, we have seen that pain deepen with a surge in homicides. But this year, we are beginning to see a shift — a reduction in these tragic numbers. This is a step forward.*

*Still, let me be clear: One life lost to violence is one too many. I will not be satisfied until every person in our community feels safe, and until no family has to endure the heartbreak of losing a loved one to murder.*

*My office remains fully committed to justice — not only in the courtroom, but through collaboration with law enforcement, community leaders, and prevention programs. Together, we will continue working toward a future where these tragedies no longer define us.*

*Below are some of the homicide convictions we have completed during the first 6 months of 2025.*

**David Lee Porter** was convicted by a jury of Murder in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and several other violent felony counts for the murder of David Treese, III. David Treese, III was a kind-hearted cab driver who was doing his job when he was ambushed by the defendant. David Lee Porter was sentenced to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections Without the Possibility of Parole. This case was prosecuted by First Assistant District Attorney Perry Duckels.

**Herley Williams** was sentenced to 40 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections for the murder of Todd Jones. He was convicted by a jury for Murder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and three counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Kennedy, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau and Assistant District Attorney Ryan Mulcahy, also of the Special Investigations Bureau.

## Homicide Update

To Date 2025:

City of Rochester Total:  
16

Monroe County Total: 18

**Malike Black** was sentenced to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections Without the Possibility of Parole for the murder of Jessica Romich. He was convicted by a jury for Murder in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Hillary Langdon, Deputy Chief of the Special Victims Unit and Assistant District Attorney Aaron Rath, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

**Quintel Crockton** was convicted by a jury of Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree for killing Terran Felder. He was sentenced to 23 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kevin Sunderland, Chief of the Local Courts Bureau.

**Marlon Williams** was sentenced to 40 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections for the murder of Shaquan Parker. He was convicted by a jury for Murder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and three counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kristina Hinkley, of the Special Victims Unit and Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

**Jymere Feliciano** pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree for the homicide of Jaden Scott. He was sentenced to 20 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Adam VanHeyst, Deputy Chief of the Major Felony Bureau.

**Herbert Montgomery** was convicted by a jury of Murder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree for the murder of Christopher Austin. He was sentenced to 25 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

**Michel Scott, Jr.** pled guilty to two counts of Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree for the homicides of Demetrius Rucker and Cahj'Miere Robinson. He was sentenced to 30 years in the New York State Department of Corrections. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Anthony Freeman, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

**Brendan Dukes** pled guilty to the indictment, which included Manslaughter in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Vehicular Manslaughter, Criminally Negligent Homicide, and various Driving While Intoxicated charges. He was sentenced to 2.5 years to 7.5 years in the New York State Department of Corrections. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Mikael Pelkey, of the Special Victims Unit.

**Raymere Alexander** was convicted by a jury of Murder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree for the murder of Suade McKnight. He was sentenced to 15 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections. **Brandon Williams** pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree for his role in this homicide. This case was prosecuted by former Assistant District Attorney Matthew Schiano.

**Walter Balkum, Jr.** was convicted by a jury of Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and Aggravated Criminal Contempt for the homicide of Melikah Bruner. He was sentenced to 17 years to Life as a persistent felony offender. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kaylee Rizzari, of the Special Victims Unit.

**Raphael Marquez** pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree for his role in the homicide of James Jackson, Jr. He was sentenced to 23 years in the New York State Department of Corrections. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

**Angelito Diaz-Escalera** was sentenced to 30 years in the New York State Department of Corrections. He previously pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree for causing the death of Cristain Romer-Warren and Rape in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree for the sexual assault of a child. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Janna Jehlen, of the Special Victims Unit.

**Anthony Barnes** pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree for recklessly causing the death of Jazzmeir Mouzon-Henton. He is scheduled to be sentenced to 5-15 years in the New York State Department of Corrections on August 14, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kelly Pettrone, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

**Roger Wiggins** was convicted by a jury of Murder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree for the death of his ex-girlfriend, Tracy Henton-Williams. He will be sentenced on July 21, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by First Assistant District Attorney Perry Duckles and Second Assistant District Attorney Michelle Crowley.

**Paolo Smith** pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Operator Leave Scene of Incident Resulting in Death, the top counts of the indictment, for causing the death of Lashawnda Leggett. He was sentenced to 3-9 years in the New York State Department of Corrections. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Mikael Pelkey, of the Special Victims Unit, and Assistant District Attorney Diane Orosz-Roy, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

**John Gordon** pled guilty to two counts of Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree for killing Jimmy Jones and Sharif Clark. He will be sentenced on July 23, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aliyah Fowler, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

**Evan Guzman** pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree for causing the death of Ted Morris. He will be sentenced to 25 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision on July 29, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Bianca D'Angelo, Chief of the General Felony Bureau.

**Christopher Long, Jr.** was convicted by a jury of Aggravated Vehicular Homicide, two counts of Manslaughter in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, and other felony counts for causing the deaths of Aleci Lopez and Skyler Swift. He will be sentenced on August 26, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Drew Kroft, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

*We are doing our part in finding justice for these homicide cases. I expect that the next six months will be as busy as the first half of the year. To those who have lost a loved one from a homicide, we stand by you, we are here for you, and we remember you.*

*Sandra*

## Highlights from the MCDA's Office

26-year-old **Christopher Long, Jr.** was convicted by a Monroe County jury of Aggravated Vehicular Homicide, two counts of Manslaughter in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, two counts of Vehicular Manslaughter in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Driving While Intoxicated, and Driving While Intoxicated; BAC .08 or more for causing the death of Aleci Lopez and Skylar Swift. On November 22, 2024, New York State Troopers responded to a report of a motor vehicle crash near the Culver Road Exit on I-490. Upon arrival, they found a single-car crash involving a vehicle crashed into a tree. There were four individuals inside the car, which was driven by Christopher Long, Jr. 18-year-old Skylar Swift was pronounced dead at the crash site. 23-year-old Aleci Lopez suffered serious injuries and was immediately transported to Strong Memorial Hospital, where she was pronounced dead. Following a thorough investigation by the New York State Police, it was determined that Christopher Long, Jr., who was intoxicated, was driving the vehicle east when he left the roadway, struck a barrier, overturned and struck a utility pole, before crashing into a tree near the Culver Road exit. He was arrested for causing the deaths of the victims. The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Drew Kroft, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau. Christopher Long, Jr. will be sentenced on August 26, 2025 in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Walsh.

24-year-old **Angelito Diaz-Escalera** was sentenced by New York State Supreme Court Justice Moran to 30 years in the New York State Department of Corrections. He previously pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree for homicide of Cristain Romero-Warren on September 18, 2024. He also pled guilty to Rape in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree for the rape of a child under the age of 13-years-old on or about and between June 30, 2024, and July 2, 2024. Both cases were investigated by the Rochester Police Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jana Jehlen, of the Special Victims Unit.

50-year-old **Walter Balkum, Jr.** was sentenced by New York State Supreme Court Justice Renzi to 17 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections. He was previously convicted by a jury of Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and Aggravated Criminal Contempt for killing Melikah Bruner on August 27, 2024. He was also convicted by the same jury of two counts of Assault in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. On June 2, 2024, Rochester Police Officers responded to a call for service at the home of Melikah Bruner. Upon their arrival, officers spoke to Melikah and her son, both of whom had been assaulted with a knife by the victim's boyfriend, Walter Balkum, Jr. The defendant was arrested and charged with Assault in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, one count for Melikah Bruner and one count for her adult son. He was released on electronic monitoring and orders of protection were issued. On August 22, 2024, the court released him to pre-trial services without electronic monitoring. On the night of August 27, 2024, Melikah Bruner's 9-year-old daughter called 911 from their home on Hazelwood Terrace to report that her mother was being attacked by the defendant. When Rochester Police Officers arrived at the residence, they found 43-year-old Melikah Bruner deceased. After a thorough investigation, Rochester Police Officers determined that Walter Balkum, Jr. had beaten Melikah repeatedly, causing her death in front of her child. He was subsequently arrested for the homicide and indicted on Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and Aggravated Criminal Contempt. The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kaylee Rizzari, of the Special Victims Unit.

18-year-old **Nahziiryahzihn Ali** was sentenced to 6 and 1/2 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision by Monroe County Court Judge Ansaldi. He was previously convicted by a jury of Assault in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and Assault in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree for stabbing a teenager in the eye on October 30, 2024. This case was investigated by the Greece Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kaylee Rizzari, of the Special Victims Unit.

36-year-old **Bradford Clark** was sentenced by Acting Monroe County Court Judge Patterson to 23 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections. He was previously convicted by a jury of two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. This case was investigated by the Rochester Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Lamon, of the Major Felony Bureau.



## MCDA in the Community

Sabrina LaMar, the Monroe County District Attorney Crime Victim Advocate for the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce, was recognized with the James Slater Service Award by Rise Up Rochester. This award is given to an advocate with outstanding dedication, service, and impact within the community in honor of James Slater, a local community activist who was murdered. Congratulations Sabrina, this recognition is well deserved, the entire Monroe County District Attorney's Office is proud of you!



## MCDA in the News

<https://wham1180.iheart.com/content/2025-07-16-rochester-man-guilty-in-deadly-i-490-crash/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/jury-convicts-man-for-deadly-490-crash-that-killed-two-women-in-november/>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2025/07/16/christopher-long-convicted-in-crash-that-killed-two-passengers-rochester-ny/85234085007/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/breaking-christopher-long-jr-convicted/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/rochester-man-convicted-in-deadly-drunk-driving-crash-on-490-christopher-long-dwi-aleci-lopez-skylar-swift-culver-road>

<https://wham1180.iheart.com/content/2025-07-16-rochester-man-sentenced-for-beating-girlfriend-to-death/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/man-sentenced-after-fatal-beating-of-girlfriend-in-front-of-child/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-due-to-be-sentenced-for-beating-girlfriend-to-death-in-rochester/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/rochester-man-sentenced-for-fatal-beating-of-girlfriend-walter-balkum-melikah-bruner-hazelwood-terrace>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-due-to-be-sentenced-for-rtb-bus-stabbing-that-seriously-injured-15-year-old/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/man-sentenced-after-stabbing-teenager-on-rtb-bus/>

<https://wham1180.iheart.com/content/2025-07-15-man-sentenced-in-fatal-rochester-shooting/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/news/local-news/man-sentenced-to-30-years-after-deadly-collision-shop-shooting/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-due-to-be-sentenced-in-deadly-shooting-of-man-working-at-rochester-collision-shop/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/rochester-man-sentenced-in-point-blank-shooting-of-auto-shop-employee-manslaughter-angelito-diaz-escalera-christopher-romero-warren-hollenbeck-street>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2025/07/11/derrick-van-epps-indicted-for-hate-crime-stabbing-on-ny-hiking-trail/84552101007/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/i-thought-i-was-going-to-die-perinton-stabbing-victim-speaks-out-following-new-charges-palmyra-man-arrested-fairport-resident-indian-hill-trail-egypt-park>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-charged-with-hate-crimes-in-perinton-trail-attack-pleads-not-guilty-to-attempted-murder-assault/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/man-indicted-for-attempted-murder-as-hate-crime-for-alleged-attack-on-hiker-in-perinton-derrick-van-epps-indian-hill-trail-dylan-ghaemi-unprovoked-assault>