

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley

July 4, 2025



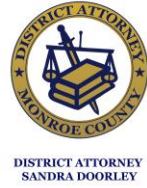
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Monroe County District Attorney's Office

Weekly Newsletter



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

Wishing You a Safe and Happy Fourth of July!

As we gather this week to celebrate America's independence, let's take a moment to reflect on the values that unite us: freedom, opportunity, and community. The Fourth of July is more than fireworks and barbecues, it's a time to honor the rights and liberties that define us as Americans. Rights and liberties secured for us by the soldiers who protect our great country. It is indeed a time to celebrate!

Across Monroe County, communities will come together for parades, festivals, and firework shows. These events are a great opportunity to enjoy time with family, connect with neighbors, and show pride in our hometowns. If you're planning to attend or host a celebration, I encourage everyone to keep safety top of mind—especially when it comes to fireworks. Please leave them to the professionals whenever possible, and if you're using consumer fireworks, do so legally and responsibly.

Independence Day festivities extend through the weekend, and with that comes an important reminder: if you're drinking, don't drive. Impaired driving puts lives at risk, yours and everyone on the road. Make a plan before you celebrate. Call a friend, use a rideshare, or designate a sober driver. It's a small choice that makes a big difference. Remember, if you feel different, you drive different. It is that simple.

I'm proud to serve a community that values both celebration and responsibility. On this Independence Day, let's honor our country not just with fireworks, but with care and respect for each other.

Today, and always, I am proud to be an American.

Have a joyful, safe, and meaningful Fourth of July.

Sandra

Homicide Update

To Date 2025:

City of Rochester Total:
16

Monroe County Total: 18

July Felony Trials

July 7 – People vs. Christopher Long, Jr.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Drew Kroft, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

The defendant is charged with Aggravated Vehicular Homicide, two counts of Manslaughter in the 2nd Degree, two counts of Vehicular Manslaughter in the 2nd Degree, Driving While Intoxicated, and Driving While Intoxicated; BAC .08 or more in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Walsh.

July 7 – People vs. Kenrick Ford

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kaylee Rizzari, of the Special Victims Unit.

The defendant is charged with two counts of Criminal Sexual Act in the 1st Degree, three counts of Sexual Abuse in the 1st Degree, Rape in the 1st Degree, and Endangering the Welfare of a Child in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Renzi.

July 7 – People vs. Khalil Lewis

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Nico Gonzalez, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

The defendant is charged with Robbery in the 1st Degree in front of Monroe County Court Judge Dollinger.

July 14 – People vs. Mark Burdick

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

The defendant is charged with Murder in the 2nd Degree in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Sinclair.

July 14 – People vs. Julian J. Byrd

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Karen Chung, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

The defendant is charged with Driving While Intoxicated, Obstructing Governmental Administration in the 2nd Degree, Unlawful Fleeing A Police Officer In a Motor Vehicle in the 3rd Degree, and Reckless Driving in front of Monroe County Court Judge Dollinger.

July 15 – People vs. Lashunda Robertson

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Lamon, of the Major Felony Bureau.

The defendant is charged with Assault in the 2nd Degree in front of Monroe County Court Judge Morrison.

July 15 – People vs. Adalberto Leondones and Jose Rodriguez

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aaron Rath, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

The defendants are charged with Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree. Adalberto Leondones is also separately charged with Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree. Both indictments are in in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Schiano.

July 15 – People vs. Stephen Taylor

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Merrick Sadler, Chief of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

The defendant is charged with Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of aa Controlled Substance in the 7th Degree in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Moran.

July 15 – People vs. Marquis Hucks

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Stephen Ryck, of the Major Felony Bureau.

The defendant is charged with Robbery in the 1st Degree and Assault in the 2nd Degree and Assault in the 2nd Degree in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Miller.

July 21 – People vs. Abdi Mohamed

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Adam VanHeyst, Deputy Chief of the Major Felony Bureau and Assistant District Attorney Kelly Pettrone, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

The defendant is charged with Attempted Murder in the 2nd Degree, Assault in the 1st Degree, two counts of Robbery in the 1st Degree, Robbery in the 2nd Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Argento.

July 21 – People vs. Taniya Moss

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Terance Calcagno, of the General Felony Bureau.

The defendant is charged with Burglary in the 3rd Degree in front of Monroe County Court Judge Randall.

July 21 – People vs. Ziere Watson

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kenisha Flowers, of the Special Victims Unit.

The defendant is charged with Rape in the 1st Degree, Rape in the 2nd Degree, Attempted rape in the 1st Degree, and Attempted Rape in the 2nd Degree in front of Monroe County Court Judge Morrison.

July 21 – People vs. Ormond Larkin, Chad Lewis, and Vincent Phillips

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aaron Rath, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

The defendant is charged with Conspiracy in the 4th Degree, Criminal two counts of Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree, and Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Argento.

July 21 – People vs. Christopher James Weber

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Diane Orosz-Roy, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

The defendant is charged with 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 front of Monroe County Court Judge Randall.

July 28 – People vs. Zachary Wallace

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Kennedy, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau.

The defendant is charged with Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in front of Monroe County Court Judge Morrison.

July 28 – People vs. Niger Johnson

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Robin Catalano, Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau.

The defendant is charged with Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Reckless Endangerment in the 2nd Degree in front of Monroe County Court Judge Randall.

July 28 – People vs. Alphonse Barnwell, Jr.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kenisha Flowers, of the Special Victims Unit.

The defendant is charged with two counts of Criminal Contempt in the 1st Degree and Criminal Obstruction of Breathing or Blood Circulation in front of Monroe County Court Judge Ansaldi.

July 28 – People vs. Sika Mbongo

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Armando Benitez, of the Special Victims Unit.

The defendant is charged with two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in front of Monroe County Court Judge Randall.

July 28 – People vs. Edward Brasley

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney James Nguyen, of the Special Victims Unit.

The defendant is charged with four counts of Criminal Sexual Act in the 3rd Degree in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Sinclair.

July 28 – People vs. Shaiquan Reeves

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Anthony Freeman, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

The defendant is charged with 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 front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Renzi.

July 29 – People vs. Yahmiek Maddox

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aaron Rath, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

The defendant is charged with Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Moran.

Highlights from the MCDA's Office

23-year-old **Lazareth Unzueta** pled guilty to Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree. On November 1, 2024, the defendant was found possessing an illegal firearm by the Rochester Police Department. Lazareth Unzueta will be sentenced by Monroe County Court Judge Morrison on October 17, 2025, to 15 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. The case was prosecuted by Jennifer Kennedy, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau and Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

Kyrell Johnson was indicted on Reckless Endangerment in the 1st Degree and Unlawful Fleeing of a Police Officer In a Motor Vehicle. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aaron Rath, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Jabari Graham was indicted on Assault in the 2nd Degree in relation to an assault with a motor vehicle on May 10, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Drew Kroft, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Keith Reed, Jr. was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in relation to the illegal possession of a firearm on June 9, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aaron Rath, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Anthony Bryant and **Tahlique Thompson** were indicted on Attempted Murder in the 2nd Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation a shooting of an individual on May 29, 2025. Anthony Bryant was also indicted on an additional count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon on School Grounds. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

Roberto Santos was indicted on two counts of Robbery in the 2nd Degree, Assault in the 2nd Degree, Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 1st Degree, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 3rd Degree, Grand Larceny in the 3rd Degree, two counts of Grand Larceny in the 4th Degree, Unlawful Fleeing A Police Officer in a Motor Vehicle in the 3rd Degree, and Reckless Driving in relation to the reckless driving of a stolen vehicle on June 12, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Drew Kroft, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Rayquain Noble was indicted on two counts of criminal Contempt in the 1st Degree and Aggravated Family Offense in relation to the violation of an order of protection on March 30, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jessica Wagner, of the Special Victims Unit.

Yariel Medina-Ortiz was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 3rd Degree and two counts of Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 3rd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of a vehicle on April 24, 2025 an April 26, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Terance Calcagno, of the General Felony Bureau.

Rashad Burden was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree in relation to an illegal possession of a firearm on June 17, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Matthew Hogestyn, of the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce.

Ayanna Emani Cox was indicted on Grand Larceny in the 4th Degree in relation to a theft from Lululemon on December 19, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Caroline Rodriguez, of the Public Integrity/Economic Crimes Bureau.

Aneudy Reyes was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Firearm. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jessica Wagner, of the Special Victims Unit.

Antonio Santiago, Jr. was indicted on Assault in the 2nd Degree in relation to an assault with a dangerous instrument on March 30, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Armando Benitez, of the Special Victims Unit.

Markel Taylor was indicted on Attempt to Commit the Crime of Aggravated Assault Upon a Police Officer or a Peace Officer, two counts of Assault in the 2nd Degree, Attempted Burglary in the 2nd Degree, two counts of Criminal Contempt in the 1st Degree, Resisting Arrest, Criminal Contempt in the 2nd Degree, and Criminal Obstruction of breathing or Blood Circulation in relation to the assault a Rochester Police Officer after the defendant was alleged to commit a domestic assault on June 15, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

Erick Diaz and **Wilmer Diaz** were indicted on counts of Robbery in the 1st Degree, Robbery in the 2nd Degree, and Gang Assault in the 2nd Degree in relation to the robbery and assault on October 26, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kaylee Rizzari, of the Special Victims Unit.

MCDA in the News

<https://13wham.com/news/local/three-rochester-suspects-charged-after-license-plate-reader-spots-stolen-vehicle-theft-greece-police-department-justin-diaz-carrie-husereau-brant-matthews>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/mother-of-son-hit-and-killed-by-u-haul-appears-for-hearing-on-statements-made-to-police/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/mother-of-son-hit-and-killed-by-u-haul-appears-for-hearing-on-statements-made-to-police/>

https://www.whec.com/top-news/father-speaks-out-almost-one-year-after-7-year-old-is-hit-by-u-haul-mother-faces-charges/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=onsite&utm_campaign=recommended

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-set-to-be-sentenced-after-pleading-guilty-to-killing-teen-who-stole-wifes-car/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/around-town/4th-of-july-fireworks-celebrations-around-rochester/>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2025/06/25/edison-estremera-cohen-charged-with-murder-attempted-murder-of-officer-rochester-ny/84355393007/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/suspect-charged-for-rochester-homicide-shootout-with-police-officers-during-foot-chase-north-clinton-avenue-oscar-street-exchange-of-gunfire-officer-involved-shooting>

<https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/rochester/public-safety/2025/06/25/rochester-police-express-frustration-with-judicial-system-after-suspect-released-before-fatal-shooting>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/news/mother-charged-in-death-of-7-year-old-at-greece-intersection-returns-to-court/>