

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley

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Contact Us

Monroe County District
Attorney's Office
47 S. Fitzhugh Street
Rochester, NY 14614
(585) 753-4780



Monroe County District Attorney's Office

Weekly Newsletter



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

Update on the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce

I am proud to share an update on the important work being done by the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce, a specialized team operating within the Monroe County District Attorney's Office. For over two years, this taskforce has been hard at work, addressing one of the most pressing issues in our community: gun violence.

This initiative was initially launched with support from a New York State grant as a part of Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE). With that funding, we brought together experienced Rochester Police Department Investigators, analysts from the Monroe County Crime Analysis Center, and dedicated professionals from the District Attorney's Office to build a team focused solely on non-fatal shootings.

A Coordinated, Urgent Response

Over time, the Taskforce has expanded significantly. From the Monroe County District Attorney's Office, it includes:

- *Four Assistant District Attorneys*
- *Two Monroe County Investigators*
- *One full-time Victim/Witness Community Advocate*

This team is designed to bring the same urgency, rigor, and collaboration to non-fatal shootings that we bring to homicide investigations. Every shooting incident, fatal or not, is a serious threat to public safety, and we must respond accordingly.

From the very first report of gunfire, the Taskforce springs into action. Investigators secure the scene, interview victims and witnesses, and begin building cases immediately. Our advocate, Sabrina LaMar, is a well-known and trusted figure in the community. She plays a crucial role in connecting with victims and witnesses and building relationships that help us identify those responsible for violence and bring them to justice.

Homicide Update

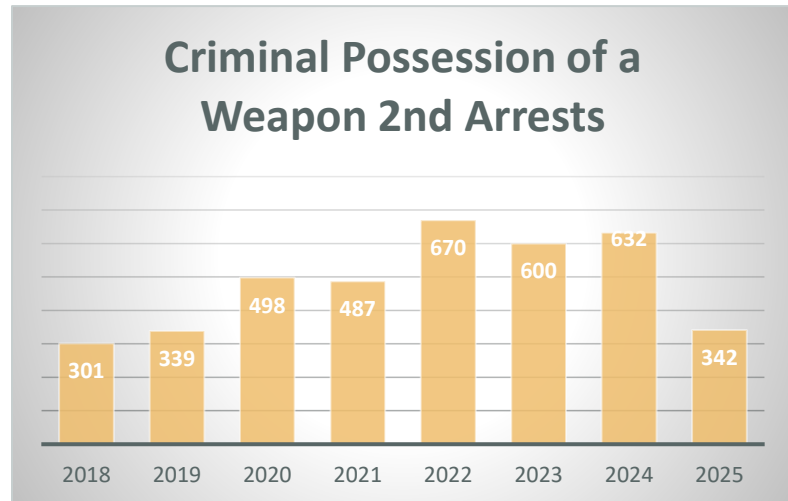
To Date 2025:

City of Rochester Total:
19

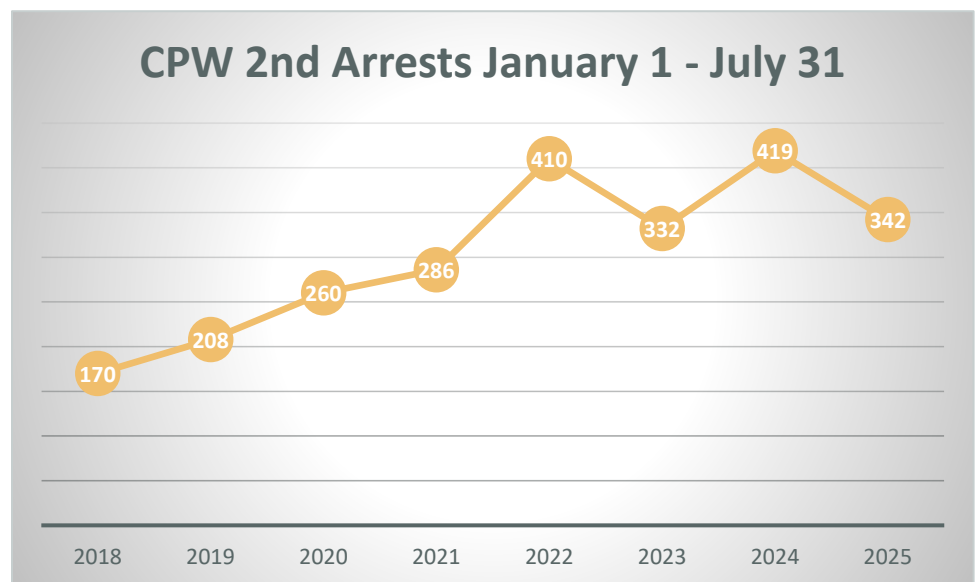
Monroe County Total: 23

Tracking Progress

One of the key metrics we monitor is the number of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree arrests — a Class C Violent Felony charged when someone is found with an illegally possessed firearm. These cases recorded below are not tied to homicides, but illegal gun possession cases, through July 31, 2025.



To give you an idea where we compare in real time compared to previous years, the chart below shows the same number of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree arrests between January 1 – July 31 of each year.



As you can see, our arrests are still high, although on track to hit lower numbers than this time last year. A higher number of arrests does not necessarily mean more shootings are occurring. Rather, it reflects enhanced enforcement, coordination, and the successful removal of firearms from individuals who pose a threat to community safety.

2025: Year-to-Date

So far this year, the Non-Fatal Shooting Taskforce has taken on 111 cases involving shootings where victims fortunately survived. Each of these cases represents a person, a family, and a neighborhood affected by gun violence—and each case is being treated with the seriousness it deserves.

Since its inception, NFS has brought charges in 144 cases... arrests that likely would not have occurred without the focused collaboration this initiative provides. Of those, 74 defendants have been convicted, with 7 trial verdicts and 67 guilty pleas. That's 74 individuals who might otherwise still be contributing to gun violence in our community. These are the worst of the worst that you hear law enforcement frequently discuss. Currently, 47 criminal cases are actively being prosecuted, and the taskforce continues to work daily to solve the open non-fatal shooting investigations.

I want to recognize the outstanding work of our four Assistant District Attorneys, our investigators, and our community advocate. Their dedication is making a tangible difference. They are not only helping us solve crimes but also working to prevent further violence by holding offenders accountable and building community trust.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to the mission of this Taskforce: to treat every shooting as the serious crime it is, whether fatal or not, and to ensure that justice is pursued swiftly and thoroughly. We will continue to adapt, expand, and strengthen our response as needed, with the ultimate goal of a safer community for everyone.

Thank you to the Rochester Police Department and the Monroe County Crime Analysis Center, and the collaborators from GIVE for your continued support on this initiative. Together, we will continue to combat gun violence and protect the communities we all call home.

Sandra

Highlights from the MCDA's Office

50-year-old **David Johnson** was sentenced by Monroe County Court Judge Randall to 12 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. He previously pled guilty to Assault in the 1st Degree. The defendant admitted to setting his ex-wife on fire on August 30, 2019. The victim survived these life-threatening injuries. David Johnson fled the country following this violent assault. David Johnson ended up hiding in Uganda, where he was married and had two children. Because of significant efforts from the Monroe County Sheriff's Office, David Johnson was apprehended in Uganda on November 29, 2024. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau and investigated by the Rochester Police Department.

19-year-old **Anthony Barnes, Jr.** was sentenced by Monroe County Court Judge Julie Hahn to 5-15 years in the New York State Department of Corrections, the maximum sentence allowed by New York State Law. The defendant previously pled guilty to the top count, Manslaughter in the 2nd Degree, for recklessly causing the death of 14-year-old Jazzmeir Mouzon-Henton. On May 3, 2024, Rochester Police Officers responded to a report of a motor vehicle crash on Bloss Street. Upon arrival, they found a single-car crash involving an overturned stolen vehicle. There were multiple children and teenagers inside the car, which was driven by Anthony Barnes, Jr. One of the passengers, 14-year-old, Jazzmeir Mouzon-Henton, suffered serious injuries and was immediately transported to Strong Memorial Hospital, where he died from his injuries days later. Following a thorough investigation by the Rochester Police Department, Anthony Barnes, Jr., who was 17-year-old at the time of the crash, was arrested for causing the death of the victim. The defendant was driving the stolen car, which overturned as a direct result of his reckless driving. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kelly Pettrone, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Lance Allen Testa was indicted on Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the 1st Degree in relation to a vehicular incident on April 20, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Karen Chung, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Chicko Dillard and **Chievous Holley** were indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 5th Degree in relation to the illegal possession of narcotics on March 27, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aaron Rath, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Adam James Peo was indicted on Driving While Intoxicated and Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the 1st Degree in relation to a vehicular incident on December 16, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Diane Orosz-Roy, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Leonel Adolph Yas-Pena was indicted on two counts of Vehicular Manslaughter in the 1st Degree, Operator Leave Scene of Incident Resulting in Death, two counts of Driving While Intoxicated, and Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the 1st Degree in relation to the homicide of Henry Brown on June 14, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Drew Kroft, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

D'Adrian Tucker 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 April 28, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aaron Rath, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Frederick Hall, Jr. was indicted on six counts of Grand Larceny in the 4th Degree, two counts of Petit Larceny, and Harassment in the 2nd Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Bianca D'Angelo, Chief of the General Felony Bureau.

Nyesha Vazquez was indicted on Criminal Contempt in the 1st Degree and Criminal Mischief in the 4th Degree in relation to the violation of an order of protection on April 22, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Janes Nguyen, of Special Victims Unit.

Daijah M. Presley was indicted on Driving While Intoxicated in relation to a vehicular incident on October 14, 2024. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Diana Ferretti, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Shawanda Simpson was indicted on Attempted Murder in the 2nd Degree and Assault in the 2nd Degree in relation to a violent stabbing on July 18, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Mikael Pelkey of the Special Victims Unit.

Ronnie Leroy Bridgewater, Jr. was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of a firearm on July 25, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Kennedy, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Jahmeer Parker was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree on July 27, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Michael Caranante, of the Special Victims Unit.

Markeith Williams was indicted on Burglary in the 3rd Degree and Petit Larceny in relation to a burglary at a Wegmans on July 25, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Nicholas Reeder, of the General Felony Bureau.

Andre Robinson was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 1st Degree in relation to the illegal possession of narcotics on July 29, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Aaron Rath, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Leeson Washington was indicted on two counts of Assault in the 1st Degree in relation to a violent domestic assault on July 19, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Janna Jehlen, of the Special Victims Unit.

Kyshonn Green was indicted on Murder in the 2nd Degree in relation to the homicide of Jmere Ridley-Smith on July 26m 2925. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Sara VanStrydonck, Chief of the Special Victims Unit, and Assistant District Attorney James Nguyen, also of the Special Victims Unit.

Kiely Griffin was indicted on Identity Theft in the 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 7th Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Christopher Folk, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Gaelen Anderson was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree in relation to the illegal possession of narcotics on July 16, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Kennedy, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau.

Alexander Laws was indicted on Aggravated Criminal Contempt, Criminal Contempt in the 1st Degree, Criminal Obstruction of Breathing or Blood Circulation and Assault in the 3rd Degree in relation to a domestic assault and violation of order of protection on April 17, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Mikael Pelkey of the Special Victims Unit.

Richard Kinder was indicted on Assault in the 2nd Degree in relation to an injury to an individual with a dangerous instrument on April 29, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Stephen Ryck, of the Major Felony Bureau.

Willie Buie was indicted on Burglary in the 3rd Degree and Petit Larceny in relation to a burglary on July 17, 2025. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney William Jenkins, of the General Felony Bureau.

MCDA in the News

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/i-accept-his-apology-victim-finds-closure-as-ex-husband-gets-12-years-for-setting-her-on-fire/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/rochester-man-sentenced-for-setting-wife-on-fire-fleeing-country-for-years-david-johnson-augustine-street-uganda-africa>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-due-to-be-sentenced-after-admitting-to-setting-his-wife-on-fire-in-2019/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-accused-of-killing-salingers-doorman-in-hit-and-run-indicted/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/family-of-wegmans-warehouse-fatal-shooting-victim-demands-justice-as-suspect-pleads-not-guilty-rochester-gates-brooks-avenue>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/suspect-in-wegmans-warehouse-shooting-indicted-on-murder-charge/>

<https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/rochester/public-safety/2025/08/11/suspect-indicted-in-deadly-shooting-at-wegmans-distribution-facility>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/man-accused-of-killing-sisters-boyfriend-hiding-body-100-miles-away-ruben-ortiz-piffard-livingston-county-luis-leon-rochester-indiana-street>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-charged-with-murder-after-missing-rochester-resident-found-dead-in-cattaraugus-county/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/man-charged-with-rochester-murder-hiding-body-in-cattaraugus-county>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/rochester-mans-body-found-in-cattaraugus-co-suspect-charged-with-murder/>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2025/08/13/luis-leon-found-dead-in-cattaraugus-county-ny-ruben-ortiz-charged/85639587007/>