

**News Release from
The Honorable Sandra Doorley
Monroe County District Attorney**

February 23, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Daniel Dashan Cooke Pleads Guilty to First Degree Rape

Rochester, NY- Today, fifty-five year old Daniel Dashan Cooke pled guilty to First Degree Rape after admitting that he engaged in sexual intercourse with a 12 year old girl at his home on Berwyn Street in the City of Rochester in June of 2014. Cooke, a Level 3 Sex Offender, had previously served an 8 year prison term for committing rape and sodomy in 1979. Cooke's actions were discovered when the victim told a member of her family within minutes of the rape, leading to his arrest. DNA evidence later conclusively established Cooke's guilt. Today's conviction is a culmination of the coordinated efforts of the Rochester Police Department, Child Protective Services, the Monroe County Crime Laboratory and the District Attorney's Office.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kyle Rossi of the Special Victims Trial Division.

"This plea delivers a harsh sentence while sparing the young victim the trauma of facing her attacker and publicly reliving the horrific details of her abuse in open court," said Rossi. "The conviction would not have been possible without the through efforts of the Rochester Police Department, especially Major Crimes Investigators Robert O'Shaughnessy and Marvin Patterson."

Cooke, who has been in the Monroe County Jail since his arrest, faces 21 years in prison plus 25 years post release supervision when he is sentenced before Supreme Court Justice Daniel Doyle on April 14th.

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