

# Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley

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## Contact Us

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## Monroe County District Attorney's Office

### Weekly Newsletter



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

### Message from Sandra Doorley

#### *Home of the Free, because of the Brave*

*Today begins the kick-off to Memorial Day Weekend, which many view as the unofficial start of summer. While I am nothing but thrilled for the warmer months, Memorial Day is more than a day of retail sales and parades. Memorial Day deserves observance.*

*As the daughter of a World War II Veteran, I know the sacrifice it takes to ensure the protection of our country. Throughout our history, the resolve of the American Soldier stands unwavering. We celebrate Memorial Day to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice so you and I can live safely and freely in the United States of America. We often take these freedoms for granted. I try to keep these freedoms at the forefront of my mind at all times.*

*Memorial Day is a day of respect and gratitude. The memory of the men and women who gave their lives to protect ours is humbling. Their lives inspire me to serve the residents of Monroe County and to do my part to keep our community safe. As an American, a mother, and a public servant, I could not be more grateful for the service that our soldiers have given our great nation.*

*President Calvin Coolidge once said "Patriotism is easy to understand in America. It means looking out for yourself by looking out for your country." This Memorial Day, and every day of the year, I do my best to be the best American possible. I urge you to value and cherish the freedoms that you have as American citizens. I am proud to be an American.*

*We are the home of the free, because of the brave. To the families who have lost their loved ones while they were on duty, I am thinking of you. To the soldiers who watched their friends perish on duty, please take care of yourselves. Your loved one's sacrifice is not unnoticed, and it is not forgotten.*

*God Bless America,*

*Sandra*

## Homicide Update

So far in 2023:

City of Rochester Total:  
16

Monroe County Total: 20

### Highlights from the MCDA's Office

43-year-old **Corinthian Hayes** was convicted by a jury of three counts of Robbery in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. On December 23, 2021, Corinthian Hayes displayed a firearm when he carjacked a victim in the City of Rochester. After a thorough investigation by the Rochester Police Department, Corinthian Hayes was arrested for the violent car theft. The defendant will be sentenced on July 14, 2023, in front of Monroe County Court Judge Hahn. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Camille Ingino, of the Major Felony Bureau.

49-year-old **Juan Rivera** pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and Arson in the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree for the stabbing death of Maribel Diaz and the arson of his residence. On the night of June 17, 2022, Rochester Police Officers were called to Suntru Street around 10:30PM, where they found 35-year-old Maribel Diaz stabbed to death inside her vehicle. Rochester Police Officers searched for Mirabel's estranged husband, Juan Rivera, and located him at his residence on McNaughton Street during the early hours of June 18, 2022. Upon arriving at the house, which was owned by the defendant's parents, Juan Rivera set fire to the house, where at least eleven animals died. Juan Rivera fled the house and was transported to Strong Memorial Hospital. He was arrested for the arson and the homicide of Maribel Diaz. Juan Rivera will be sentenced to 25 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision for the homicide, consecutive to 1-3 years in the New York State Department of Corrections for the arson. The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau and Assistant District Attorney Drew Kroft, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau. Juan Rivera will be sentenced on July 18, 2023, in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Sinclair.

30-year-old **Justin Singleton** pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree for the shooting death of Jan Perez, which occurred on May 8, 2022. On May 8, 2022, at approximately 12:45PM, Rochester Police Officers were called to North Plymouth Avenue, where they found Jan Perez deceased from a gunshot wound. Justin Singleton was quickly identified by the Rochester Police Department as responsible for the homicide of Jan Perez. Justin Singleton 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 Elizabeth Buckley, Chief of the Local Courts Bureau, and Special Assistant District Attorney Hillary Langdon, of the Special Victims Unit. Justin Singleton will be sentenced on June 28, 2023, in front of Monroe County Court Judge Dollinger.

32-year-old **Akesh Deng** pled guilty to Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree for the illegal possession of a weapon outside his home on October 10, 2022. He will be sentenced to 5 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 2 and a half years of post-release supervision on June 27, 2023, in front of Monroe County Court Judge Vacca. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm, of the Major Felony Bureau.

On May 24, 2023, 60-year-old **John Weiner** pled guilty to Burglary in the Second Degree after burglarizing a residence in the Town of Irondequoit and stealing a television from inside the residence. The defendant will be sentenced to state prison on June 28, 2023 by Monroe County Court Judge Dollinger. This case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Anthony Freeman, of the Major Felony Bureau.

34-year-old **Markeef Royal** was sentenced by New York State Supreme Court Justice Renzi to 8 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. On April 26, 2023, he was convicted by a jury of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree for the illegal possession of a weapon on December 17, 2020. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Timothy Boucher, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

45-year-old **Lance Mitchel** was sentenced by New York State Supreme Court Justice Sinclair to 15 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision for his role in the 2021 death of his step-father, William Mason. The remains of William Mason were located in a fire pit near his home. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Sara Vanstrydonck, Chief of the Special Victims Unit, and Assistant District Attorney Brandon Gonzalez, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

**Justin Jackson** was indicted on Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Driving While Ability Impaired by Drugs, Unlawful Fleeing A Police Officer In a Motor Vehicle in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, and Reckless Driving in relation to a vehicular incident on January 1, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Drew Kroft, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

**Rafael Rodriquez** was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, and two counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree in relation to the possession of illegal narcotics on August 9, 2022. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Matthew Hogestyn, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

**Davieon Ellison-Edwards** was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Menacing a Police Officer or Peace Officer in relation to the illegal possession of a weapon on May 7, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Burak Serbetci, of the Major Felony Bureau.

**Andrew Kirkland** was indicted on Assault in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree in relation to a domestic violence incident on February 24, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jessica Wagner, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

**Kyle Mattle** and **Frank Guidice** were indicted on Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree and Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree in relation to a vehicle that was reported stolen on October 18, 2022. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Diana Ferretti, of the General Felony Bureau.

**Israel Romero** was indicted on Burglary in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, Assault in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, and Criminal Mischief in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree in relation to a home burglary in the Town of Irondequoit on January 2, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Anthony Freeman, of the Major Felony Bureau.

**Jah-Mel Oshea Lester** was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on May 8, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Tony DiPerna, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

**Kamu Porter** was indicted on two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm on November 2, 2022. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Matthew Hogestyn, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

**Najeeb Bailey** was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, five counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, six counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, and six counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Hyatt, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau.

**Gerald Benitez-Alvarez** was indicted on Assault in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and Assault in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree in relation to the severe injuries of a one-year-old on May 2, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Sara Vanstrydonck, Chief of the Special Victims Unit and Assistant District Attorney Ralph Alloco, also of the Special Victims Unit.

**Kenny Walker** was indicted on Assault in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree in relation to the physical assault of a child on April 19, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ralph Alloco, of the Special Victims Unit.

**Troy Parker** was indicted on Murder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Arson in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree for the murder of Fantasia Stone on April 11, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

**Christopher Horr** was indicted on Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, and Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree in relation to a vehicle that was reported stolen on December 17, 2022. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Diana Ferretti, of the General Felony Bureau.

**Jorge Baez** was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree in relation to the possession of an illegal firearm at the Greater Rochester International Airport on October 29, 2022. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Timothy Boucher, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

**Jermaine McKnight** was indicted on three counts of Rape in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, three counts of Criminal Sexual Act in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, two counts of Criminal Sexual Act in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, Rape in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, and Endangering the Welfare of a Child. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kevin Sunderland, of the Special Victims Unit.

**Hakeem Newsome** was indicted on Burglary in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree in relation to a domestic burglary in the City of Rochester on March 8, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Karen Chung, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

**Noah Gaines** was indicted on Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, and Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree in relation to a vehicle that was reported stolen on January 18, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Diana Ferretti, of the General Felony Bureau.

**Anthony Williams** was indicted on eight counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, six counts of Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, and six counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Matthew Hogestyn, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

**Brett Hogerman** was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 7<sup>th</sup> Degree in relation to the illegal possession of a weapon and narcotics on December 2, 2022. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jonathan Jirik, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

**Marcobrien Volcy** was indicted on eleven counts of Possessing a Sexual Performance by a Child. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Constance Patterson, of the Special Victims Unit.

**Dwayne Brown** was indicted on Assault in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Aggravated Criminal Contempt, Criminal Contempt in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, and Criminal Mischief in the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree in relation to a domestic related event occurring on April 20, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Rachel Clark, Deputy Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

**Michael Carter** was indicted on Assault in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree for a domestic related event on January 25, 2023. This was is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Kristina Hinkley, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

**Davon Caldwell** was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree in relation to an illegal firearm possession on May 6, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Matthew Hogestyn, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

## MCDA in the Community

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley attended the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Luncheon. The NCADD-RA provides evidence-based substance use and problem gambling prevention services to our community. Congratulations to this year's honorees, Jason Teller and Ted Aman!





Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley attended Pittsford Sutherland High School's Criminal Law Class to discuss criminal prosecutions and homicide cases. Thank you to the students for the lively discussion and excellent questions!



## MCDA in the News

<https://wham1180.iheart.com/content/2023-05-22-rochester-man-indicted-for-allegedly-setting-woman-on-fire/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-accused-of-setting-fantasia-stone-on-fire-in-april-indicted-for-murder-and-arson/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/man-pleads-guilty-to-manslaughter-after-death-of-estranged-wife/>

<https://truecrimedaily.com/2023/05/24/new-york-rochester-juan-rivera-stabbed-mirabel-diaz-arson-killing-11-animals-pleads-guilty/>

<https://www.whec.com/local/man-pleads-guilty-to-stabbing-wife-to-death-in-rochester-then-setting-fire-to-his-home/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/man-pleads-guilty-to-fatally-stabbing-estranged-wife-in-rochester-juan-rivera-suntru-street-mcnaughton>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2022/06/21/juan-rivera-charged-in-death-of-maribel-rivera-diaz-rochester-ny/7685357001/>

<https://wham1180.iheart.com/content/2023-05-23-ogden-man-sentenced-for-killing-stepfathe/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/man-sentenced-for-killing-stepfather-in-parma-lance-mitchel-william-mason>

<https://wham1180.iheart.com/content/2023-05-24-rochester-man-pleads-guilty-in-n-plymouth-ave-homicide/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/parolee-pleads-guilty-to-manslaughter-for-may-2022-shooting-on-n-plymouth-ave/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/parolee-pleads-guilty-to-deadly-shooting-on-north-plymouth-ave-over-a-year-ago/>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2022/05/09/justin-singleton-charged-in-death-of-jan-perez-in-rochester-ny/9700890002/>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/restricted/?return=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.democratandchronicle.com%2Fstory%2Fnews%2F2023%2F05%2F23%2Fjames-krauseneck-appeals-brighton-ax-murder-conviction-from-beyond-grave%2F70222330007%2F>



We are hiring attorneys! If you are a recent law school graduate or an experienced attorney and are interested in a career in criminal law and public service, apply with us today! More information is available on [monroecounty.gov/da](http://monroecounty.gov/da).