

# Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley

September 24, 2021



## Contact Us

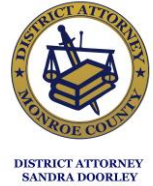
Monroe County District  
Attorney's Office

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.

## Message from Sandra Doorley

### Highlights of the **Less is More** Parole Legislation

*On September 17, 2021, Governor Kathy Hochul signed into law parole legislation commonly known as "Less is More". Here is an overview, although not exhaustive, of this new piece of legislation which becomes effective March 1, 2022.*

- 1. It establishes 'earned time credits'. For every 30 days of compliance with parole rules, the parolee earns 30 days off the parole term. This provision is retroactive.*
- 2. Eliminates jail exposure on most technical violations and certain offenses. A technical violation is any non-criminal conduct that violates a condition of community supervision in an important respect.*
- 3. Technical violations not subject to jail exposure include violations of curfew, alcohol or drug use, failure to notify regarding change of employment, contact with law enforcement, failure to pay a fine and others. The only penalties for these types of violations will be the loss of good time credits. Other technical violations are only eligible for jail exposure upon the 3<sup>rd</sup> violation.*
- 4. If the parolee commits a new crime, whether misdemeanor or felony, such is considered a non-technical violation and warrant for arrest may be issued if based upon probable cause. The new law provides for a prompt hearing in this case and an opportunity for release or bail upon arrest for such a violation.*

Sandra



# Homicide Update

So far in 2021:

City of Rochester Total: 59

Monroe County Total: 67

## Highlights from the MCDA's Office

**Jose Sanchez** pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree for the March 11, 2020 homicide of 78-year-old Pedro Santiago, Sr. on Nester Street in the City of Rochester. On March 11, 2020, a United States Postal employee was delivering mail along her route when she came across the victim, 78-year-old Pedro Santiago, bleeding and barely breathing on his front porch. The Postal employee immediately called 911 and attempted to render aid, but Mr. Santiago succumbed to his injuries within moments of being located. Jose Sanchez will serve 23 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. This case was prosecuted by ADA Michael Robertson from the Major Felony Bureau.

27-year-old **Divine Chandler** was sentenced to 9 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 2 years of Post Release Supervision by State Supreme Court Justice Moran. Divine Chandler was convicted by a Monroe County Jury of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree and Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree on August 4, 2021. This conviction comes after Divine Chandler sold fentanyl to an undercover police officer. This case was prosecuted by ADA Robin Catalano, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau.

On Tuesday, September 21, **Phillip Owens** was indicted on Attempted Murder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Assault in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, three counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, two counts 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. These charges allege that Phillip Owens shot a man six times in May of 2021, thankfully the victim survived. This case is being prosecuted by ADA Rachel Clark of the Major Felony Bureau.

**Clinton Person Jr.** was indicted for Attempted Murder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Assault in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, two counts of Burglary in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree and two counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child. These charges are in relation to the August stabbing of the defendant's ex-girlfriend. This case is being prosecuted by ADA Gina Clark of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

**Cedrick Morgan** was indicted on Burglary in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, Menacing in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Endangering the Welfare of a Child. This indictment is in relation to an armed burglary that occurred on August 27, 2021. This case will be prosecuted by ADA Karen Chung, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

## The Western New York Power 100

City & State New York published the Western New York Power 100 to rank the movers and shakers of Buffalo, Rochester and the surrounding region. DA Sandra Doorley ranked 22 for the most powerful in the region. To see the entire publication, follow

<https://www.cityandstateny.com/power-lists/2021/09/western-new-york-power-100/185364/>.

### 22. Sandra Doorley



*Monroe County District Attorney*



*Sandra Doorley / Faye Vitagliano*

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley is the first woman to hold her office. She had nearly 20 years of experience before her election in 2011, earning a reputation as a shrewd investigator with a knack for solving cold cases and a special expertise in DNA evidence. As president of the District Attorneys Association of New York until this summer, she was a key voice in criminal justice reform debates in Albany. Closer to home, she has brought campaign finance and firearms possession charges against embattled Rochester Mayor Lovely Warren.



## MCDA in the Community

### Willow Domestic Violence Summit

DA Doorley presented as a part of a panel at the Domestic Violence Virtual Summit. Her panel was titled 'Justice in Monroe County: What's Next?' where she joined Amy Schwartz-Wallace from the Empire Justice Center, Dara Sheinfeld, Pro Bono Counsel at Davis Polk and Michael Fowler, Chief Deputy of the Monroe County Sheriff's Office.

## Bivona Annual Awards Dinner

The ADAs of the Special Victims Unit joined DA Sandra Doorley at the Annual Bivona Awards Dinner. There, members in the community were awarded for their incredible efforts for child advocacy. Following the dinner, DA Doorley presented awards to those who assisted in the investigation of the heartbreaking Kirk Ashton case earlier this year. Among the many law enforcement and members of the Bivona team honored, ADA Sara Vanstrydonk, Chief of the Special Victims Unit and ADA Amanda Balling, Deputy Chief of the Special Victims Unit, were recognized for their tireless efforts in this case.



## MCDA in the News

<https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/rochester/public-safety/2021/09/20/ny-parole-officials-preparing-for-implementation-of-less-is-more-act>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/monroe-co-da-us-district-court-judge-taking-stand-in-brighton-ax-murder-hearing>

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2021/09/22/brighton-ny-ax-murder-hearing-could-be-precursor-to-trial-james-krauseneck/5815919001/>

<https://www.shorenewsnetwork.com/2021/09/22/rochester-fentanyl-dealer-gets-7-years-in-prison/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/rochester-man-indicted-on-attempted-murder-for-may-shooting-in-swillburg-neighborhood/>

## MCDA Family Picnic

On Friday, September 17, DA Doorley and bureau chiefs hosted a Monroe County District Attorney's Office Family Picnic at Webster County Park. There was fun for the entire family with a bounce house, DJ and an ice cream truck! This was a small way to thank the entire staff at the Monroe County District Attorney's Office for all of the hard work they do on a day-to-day basis. Thank you all!





## WE'RE HIRING

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).