News Release from The Honorable Sandra Doorley

Monroe County District Attorney

April 5, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR: Calli Johnson Monroe County District Attorney's Office 47 South Fitzhugh Street Rochester, NY 14614 (585) 753-4532

Vernon Cleveland Jr. Sentenced 35 Years for Kidnapping in the Second Degree

Rochester, NY- Tuesday, April 4, 2017 Monroe County Court Judge Douglas Randall sentenced 26 year old Vernon Cleveland Jr. to 20 years in the New York State Department of Corrections for Kidnapping in the Second Degree, 15 years for Robbery in the First Degree and 10 years for two counts of Robbery in the Second Degree after a Monroe County Jury Convicted him on February 3, 2017. The Robbery charges in the First and Second Degree will be served concurrently to one another and consecutively to the Kidnapping charge. Vernon Cleveland Jr. will serve a total of 35 years in the New York State Department of Corrections with 5 years of parole.

On March 25, 2016, Cleveland robbed a restaurant delivery driver at gunpoint and then forced the victim into the trunk of the victim's car where he was held for almost 30 minutes before escaping.

The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Pat Gallagher of the Major Felony Bureau.

"Thanks to the diligent work done by the Rochester Police Department, the FBI's CAST team and strong victim testimony, Vernon Cleveland Jr. will serve a very lengthy prison sentence," said Assistant District Attorney Pat Gallagher. "This community does not tolerate senseless violence and today our streets are safer because Mr. Cleveland is no longer a threat to his neighborhood."