News Release from The Honorable Sandra Doorley

Monroe County District Attorney

October 22, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR: Calli Marianetti Monroe County District Attorney's Office 47 South Fitzhugh Street Rochester, NY 14614 (585) 753-4347

Luis Fernandez and Augustin Ocasio Plead Guilty to 20 Years After a Long Term Narcotics Investigation

Rochester, NY- On Tuesday, October 22, 2019, 42-year-old Luis Fernandez and 45-year-old Augustin Ocasio pled guilty to Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 1st Degree and Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree with a sentence promise of 20 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of Post Release Supervision.

On April 5, 2019, the Monroe County Heroin Task Force executed a search warrant at 69 Avery Street in the City of Rochester. The Task Force discovered a kilogram of cocaine, a loaded 40 caliber semiautomatic handgun and scales used to measure cocaine for sale. Both Luis Fernandez and Augustin Ocasio are predicate felons, with Fernandez on parole for Manslaughter in the 1st Degree at the time of his arrest.

This long term investigation was led by the Monroe County Heroin Task Force in conjunction with agencies from Puerto Rico, New Jersey, Connecticut and Buffalo on both the local and federal levels.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Robin Catalano, Deputy of the Special Investigations Bureau and Senior Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Kennedy of the Special Investigations Bureau.

"Both Luis Fernandez and Augustin Ocasio are violent felons who had the intention of promoting illegal narcotics in our community," said Assistant District Attorney Robin Catalano. "It is no secret that these drugs are fueling very dangerous addictions. I want to thank the members of the Monroe County Heroin Task Force that led this investigation to take narcotics off the streets and put Luis Fernandez and Augustin Ocasio behind bars."

"Every single day, we are seeing the results of the Monroe County Heroin Task Force come to fruition in the court room," said Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley. "This is an important return on a search warrant executed by the Task Force. We will continue to coordinate

these thorough and detailed investigations to rid our community of this poison and sending those who are responsible to prison."

"We warned you, if you sell drugs and someone dies, we are coming for you," said Monroe County Sheriff Todd K. Baxter. "Results of this magnitude would not be possible if not for the diligent and steadfast work that is being conducted by the Monroe County Heroin Task Force. This Task Force is committed to ridding our community of these dangerous drugs and getting those battling addiction the help they need. We are grateful to the Monroe County District Attorney's Office for holding those responsible, in this case Luis Fernandez and Augustin Ocasio, accountable for their actions so that these drug dealers cannot put anyone else in harm's way."

Luis Fernandez and Augustin Ocasio will be sentenced on November 20, 2019 in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Renzi.

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