

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

August 3, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Cleveland St. John Convicted of Murder in the 2nd Degree for the Death of
Sherod Hurst**

Rochester, NY- On Friday, August 3, 2018 County Court Judge John L. DeMarco convicted 35-year-old Cleveland St. John of one count of Murder in the 2nd Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree for the shooting death of Sherod Hurst.

On April 25, 2017, Cleveland St. John and Sherod Hurst got into a physical altercation near the intersection of Thurston Rd. and Flanders St. Cleveland St. John escalated this altercation by retrieving a handgun and shooting Hurst in the back and side multiple times as the victim was attempting to run away.

St. John is facing up to 25 years to life in the New York State Department of Corrections for the Murder in the 2nd Degree conviction and up to 15 years for the two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree convictions.

The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher of the Major Felony Bureau.

“Cleveland St. John shot Mr. Hurst in the back as he was running away, and then fired multiple rounds at Mr. Hurst from close range as he was lying on the ground helpless” said Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher. “This unnecessary crime occurred in broad daylight, putting innocent bystanders in danger. We would like to thank the Rochester Police Department for their quick response and thorough investigation.”

“Sadly, senseless crimes like these plague our community all too often.” Said District Attorney Sandra Doorley, “these convictions illustrate how effective the collaborative efforts between law enforcement, the District Attorney’s Office and private citizens can be in bringing justice to those who commit these brutal crimes.”

Cleveland St. John will be sentenced on September 27, 2018, in front of County Court Judge John L. DeMarco.

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