

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

February 13, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Jellia Lockhart Convicted of Manslaughter in the 2nd Degree and Assault in the 2nd Degree

Rochester, NY- On Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 30-year-old Jellia Lockhart was convicted by a Monroe County jury of Manslaughter in the 2nd Degree and Assault in the 2nd Degree for causing the death of 33-year-old Charlaura Lockhart and the assault of another victim.

On January 1, 2023, Rochester Police Officers responded to a fatal crash at Denver Street and Hazelwood Terrace around 3:45AM. Car passenger Charlaura Lockhart and another victim were found inside the car that struck a tree head-on. Charlaura Lockhart was pronounced dead at the scene and the second passenger had life-threatening injuries. The second passenger was pulled out of the vehicle before being transferred to Strong Memorial Hospital. After a thorough investigation by the Rochester Police Department, it was determined that the driver, Charlaura's sister Jellia Lockhart, was driving the car when the vehicle crashed into another vehicle before hitting a tree. Jellia Lockhart fled the scene following the accident and she was arrested later that month.

The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Camille Ingino, of the Major Felony Bureau, and Senior Assistant District Attorney Drew Kroft, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

"Jellia Lockhart acted in a destructive, reckless manner when she caused her vehicle to crash, killing her sister and nearly taking the life of another innocent victim," said Assistant District Attorney Camille Ingino. "The fear of being caught for her destructive actions led Jellia Lockhart to abandon her sister, who died from the defendant's actions. While the lives of an entire family are forever changed, it is our hope that we found justice for Charlaura Lockhart."

"I can only imagine the pain that the Lockhart family has experienced over the past year, with the death of one daughter because of the actions of another," said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. "Jellia Lockhart caused the death of her sister, caused injuries to another passenger, and fled the scene to avoid accepting responsibility. I urge the community to remember Charlaura's life and her devastating death before anyone chooses to drive recklessly."

Jellia Lockhart will be sentenced on March 28, 2024, in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Argento.

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