

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

April 18, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**John Spencer Sentenced to 17-21 Years for 22 Counts Involving Sex  
Trafficking**

Rochester, NY- Wednesday, April 18, 2018, State Supreme Court Justice Renzi sentenced 43-year-old John Spencer to 17-21 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of Post Release Supervision for eight counts of sex trafficking. John Spencer was convicted by a Monroe County Jury of eight counts of Sex Trafficking, three counts of Promoting Prostitution in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, one count of Promoting Prostitution in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, two counts of Assault in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, three counts of Assault in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, two counts of Robbery in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, one count of Unlawful Imprisonment in the Second Degree, one count of Menacing in the Second Degree and one count of Permitting Prostitution.

From April 2015 through October 2016, John Spencer, also known as, Smurf, forced three different victims to sell themselves for his monetary profit. Spencer preyed upon these vulnerable victims, convincing them they needed his support for food and shelter while supplying them with illegal narcotics. After an in-depth investigation conducted by the New York State Police Special Investigations Unit, in which multiple victims were identified, John Spencer was arrested on August 25, 2017.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Elizabeth Buckley, Chief of the Sex Crimes Bureau.

“John Spencer is among the most dangerous types of predators, he sought out, groomed and brainwashed his vulnerable victims,” said Assistant District Attorney Elizabeth Buckley. “Sex trafficking occurs right here in Monroe County, especially to those who are suffering from drug addiction. Victims are exploited by the dealers who feed their powerful addiction and are forced into prostitution. If you or someone you know is a victim of sex trafficking, the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office urges you to reach out to law enforcement as soon as possible.”

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