News Release from The Honorable Sandra Doorley

Monroe County District Attorney

May 4, 2022

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

Keith Williams Convicted of Attempted Aggravated Murder of a Police Officer, Attempted Murder in the Second Degree, Aggravated Assault Upon a Police Officer, and Assault in the First Degree

Rochester, NY- On May 4, 2022, 30-year-old Keith Williams was convicted by a Monroe County jury of Attempted Aggravated Murder of a Police Officer, Attempted Murder in the Second Degree, Aggravated Assault Upon a Police Officer, and Assault in the First Degree for the brutal attack of 23 year veteran, Police Officer, Dennison Wright.

On October 4, 2019, Officer Dennison Wright responded to a domestic disturbance at Peck Street where Keith Williams violently attacked him. Beating and stabbing Officer Wright, causing him permanent vision loss in both eyes. During the altercation, Officer Wright was heroically able to subdue Mr. Williams despite his injures. Thanks to the help of two civilians who heard Officer Wright's cries for help, and assisted in restraining Mr. Williams until the Rochester Police Department arrived.

The case was prosecuted by District Attorney Sandra Doorley and Special Assistant District Attorney Bianca D'Angelo of the Major Felony Bureau.

"It is easy to forget as we go about our daily lives the sacrifice police officers often make to help keep us safe," said Assistant District Attorney Bianca D'Angelo. "Officer Dennison Wright is a true example of a hero; his actions that day should stand as an incredible reminder of the dangers that exist in our community. I am proud that we were able bring Keith Williams to justice."

"When Officer Dennison Wright responded to the call on October 4, 2019, he had no idea his life was about to completely change at the hands of Keith Williams and his irreprehensible actions," said Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley. "It is inspiring that after all that has happened, Officer Wright is still committed to serving his community in any way that he is able. A special thank you to the two civilians who risked their safety to help Officer Wright continue to detain Mr. Williams until the Rochester Police Department arrived. Although Officer Wright will never regain his vision, it is our hope that this conviction brings him a sense of justice."

Keith Williams will be sentenced on June 8, 2022 in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Alex R. Renzi.

Body worn camera footage can be requested, please contact Casey Jensen at caseyjensen@monroecounty.gov. Copies are not able to be shared digitally and will need to be picked up from our office by 5:15pm today or after 9:00am tomorrow.

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