OFFICE OF THE MONROE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

The Honorable Brian P. Green, District Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shannon Rienholtz Sentenced to 25 Years to Life for the Homicide of James Wooden

Rochester, NY- On Tuesday, December 2, 2025, New York State Supreme Court Justice Sinclair sentenced 43-year-old Shannon Rienholtz to 25 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections. On May 3, 2023, Shannon Rienholtz was convicted by a jury of Murder in the 2nd Degree for killing James Wooden.

On September 29, 2021, around 12:30AM, Rochester Police Officers arrived at Minder Street, where they located Shannon Rienholtz and Kristin Krueger. Shortly after, additional officers with the Rochester Police Department were called to Durand Eastman Park, where they found 67-year-old James Wooden deceased, with over forty stab wounds. The Rochester Police Department quickly identified the defendants as the two women responsible for the stabbing death of James Wooden.

On March 30, 2023, Kristin Krueger pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1st Degree for her role in James' death. She was sentenced to 10 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Monica O'Brien, Chief of the Grand Jury Bureau, and Senior Assistant District Attorney Camille Ingino, of the Major Felony Bureau.

"Over four years ago, Shannon Rienholtz violently stabbed James Wooden to death," said Assistant District Attorney Monica O'Brien. "After years of anxiously waiting, I am pleased to see Mr. Wooden's family finally see the justice they deserved. Nobody deserves to be left for dead in the middle of the night. I want to thank the Rochester Police Department for their detailed investigation and the cooperation of the public who were willing to testify in court, resulting in the successful prosecution of Shannon Rienholtz. I am relieved for James' family, especially his wife, that today's maximum sentence allowed by law, finally brought a resolution to this devastating case."

"The violent and destructive actions of Shannon Rienholtz took the life of a 67-year-old man," said District Attorney Brian Green. "Although they will never get their loved one back, it is our hope that the family of James Wooden all feel a sense of justice after years of waiting. I applaud ADA O'Brien and ADA Ingino for their incredible dedication to this case, to the victim's family, and to securing justice for James Wooden."

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