

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

March 18, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Thomas Johnson III Conviction Affirmed by the Fourth Department**

Rochester, NY- On March 18, 2022, the Supreme Court of the State of New York Appellate Davison Fourth Judicial Department unanimously affirmed the conviction of Thomas Johnson III, who was convicted for the murder of Rochester Police Officer Daryl Pierson.

On December 2, 2021, an attorney for Thomas Johnson III filed for a dismissal of the Aggravated Murder of a Police Officer conviction. Former Assistant District Attorney Leah Mervine argued on behalf of the Monroe Court District Attorney's Office to uphold the conviction for this serious offense. The Fourth Department unanimously affirmed the original conviction.

The prosecution of Thomas Johnsons III was prosecuted by Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley and former Assistant District Attorney Brian Green.

"This community will always remember the brutal murder of Officer Daryl Pierson," said Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley. "Thank you to all of the Appellate Court Justices of the Fourth Department who affirmed the conviction of Thomas Johnson III. This murder serves as a reminder of the dangers our police officers face on a daily basis. Officer Pierson made the ultimate sacrifice on that September night, something we as a community will never forget."

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