



Office of the Sheriff

MONROE COUNTY
"ONE TEAM"



Sheriff Todd K. Baxter

Undersheriff Korey K. Brown

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ROCTAC 6-MONTH PROGRESS REPORT

Community-wide Threat Assessment and Management Advisory Team

Rochester, NY (August 14, 2019) – The Monroe County Sheriff's Office, in collaboration with Monroe County, Monroe County District Attorney's Office, U.S. Department of Justice, United States Secret Service, New York agencies, Veterans Outreach Center, a host of law enforcement agencies, colleges and universities, school districts, human resources and mental health professionals, is proud to report the Rochester Threat Advisory Committee's (ROCTAC) successful first six months since becoming operational on January 16, 2019. ***See list of Participating Member Agencies below.

Inspired by the tragic loss of seven-year-old Hunter Resch of Greece, ROCTAC has had 11 cases presented to the team since its inception. ROCTAC acts as a clearing house for information flow specific to situations known as Threat Cases (TC). Threat Cases are defined as situations, above normal occurrences, where the risk of violence is assessed to be imminent and/or a cluster of risk factors and warning behaviors are present, commonly associated with elevated risks for targeted violence. While ROCTAC cannot share specific cases and results due to confidentiality, HIPPA and FERPA regulations, success can be measured by the testimonials of those who have brought a case before the committee, and received guidance to help resolve the situation in a peaceful manner.

"We will never truly know the number of lives saved, impacted, or renewed as a result of this team, its guidance, time, skill, and efforts," said Monroe County Sheriff Todd K. Baxter. "What we can be proud of is the progress that we have made as a community to step outside of our individual silos and begin to have conversations and true teamwork, resulting in a shared place to disclose what is perceived to be a threatening situation before tragedy strikes. I am proud of the work this committee has put into its success and look forward to ROCTAC evolving into a stronger organization with even greater results."



ROCTAC is homegrown with 26 Participating Member Agencies. It serves as a resource for the community in an effort to improve targeted violence threat response protocols by providing multi-disciplinary expert advice and seamless sharing of information across systems. The team balances the safety needs of the public, with the health and wellness needs of the individual(s) at risk, in hopes of creating restorative measures. The hope and expectation is to share this concept statewide with sheriffs' offices and law enforcement agencies throughout New York through the assistance of the New York State Sheriffs' Association, as well as gain national participation with agencies affiliated with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

“ROCTAC's positive impact on our community's ability to provide support and guidance to law enforcement, schools, and other agencies was immediately evident,” said Mark Concordia, Roberts Wesleyan College Justice and Security Institute Founder and Association of Threat Assessment Professionals (ATAP) Certified Threat Manager. “We have been there for our community, even coming together on weekends to assist with high-need cases. Stakeholders from across systems are equally engaged and dedicated to responding to the rise of mass shootings with a preventative strategy that provides necessary interventions and coordinated care for high-need cases, while protecting the public safety needs of our community. ROCTAC remains dedicated to not accepting the rise of mass shootings in America as the new normal.”

The ROCTAC Advisory Group meets at least twice a month. Executive management from Participating Member Agencies meets quarterly to assess and strategize how to improve the threat advisory team.

*****List of Participating Member Agencies**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Office of the Sheriff of Monroe County ✚ Office of the District Attorney of Monroe County ✚ Office of Court Administration, 7th Judicial District ✚ Monroe County Office of Mental Health ✚ Monroe County Department of Public Safety ✚ Monroe County Department of Probation ✚ Monroe County Child Protective Services ✚ Public Safety Committee, Monroe County Legislature ✚ United States Attorney’s Office ✚ United States Secret Service ✚ Federal Bureau of Investigation ✚ Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives ✚ Transportation Security Administration (TSA) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Fairport Police Department ✚ Irondequoit Police Department ✚ Roberts Wesleyan College ✚ University of Rochester ✚ Rochester Institute of Technology ✚ Monroe Community College ✚ Fairport Central School District ✚ Rochester City School District ✚ Willow Domestic Violence Center ✚ Villa of Hope ✚ Hillside Children’s Center ✚ Veterans Outreach Center ✚ Wegmans Food Markets |
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