

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

March 7, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Frank Cassata Sentenced to 25 Years to Life for the Death of 3-year-old Amir Pallet

Rochester, NY- Thursday, March 7, 2019, Monroe County Court Judge Valleriani sentenced 48-year-old Frank Cassata to 25 years to life in the New York State Department of Corrections for the murder of 3-year-old Amir Pallet. On February 1, 2019, a Monroe County Jury convicted Frank Cassata of Murder in the 2nd Degree, Aggravated Vehicular Homicide, Vehicular Manslaughter in the 1st Degree, Operator Leave Scene of Incident-Injury Resulting in Death, Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated and two counts of Driving While Intoxicated for the death of 3-year-old Amir Pallet.

On the evening of June 2, 2018, after an argument with an individual, Frank Cassata drove onto the sidewalk on Lyell Avenue in an attempt to show aggression towards the individual with whom he was arguing. He continued on, striking Amir Pallet with his vehicle along with a second family member. Both victims were transferred to Strong Memorial Hospital, where Amir died from his injuries. Frank Cassata was immediately arrested by the Rochester Police Department, after a concerned citizen followed him from the scene.

The case was prosecuted by First Assistant District Attorney Perry Duckles.

“Although today’s sentence is the only appropriate sentence, it does little to comfort a family that lost a child” said Assistant District Attorney Perry Duckles. “I want to take a moment to thank the great team at the Rochester Police Department who collected the evidence during this investigation that secured today’s appropriate sentence. On behalf of the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office, we sincerely hope that Amir’s family and loved ones can find some closure with today’s sentence while they continue to mourn this unthinkable tragedy.”

“Frank Cassata made series of poor and reckless decisions that cost our community and a family the life of a 3-year-old,” said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. “Here at the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office we don’t refer to accidents from a DWI as mistakes, we call them crimes. The death of Amir Pallet was a completely avoidable tragedy that we will never forget. Frank Cassata will now have the rest of his life in the New York State Department of Corrections to contemplate his actions.”

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