

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

October 25, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Jury Finds Joshua Williams Guilty of Murder in the 2nd Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree

Rochester, NY- Wednesday, October 25, 2023, a Monroe County Jury convicted 29-year-old Joshua Williams of Murder in the Second Degree and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree for the murder of Willie Wofford on July 5, 2022.

On July 5, 2022, at approximately 2:38AM, Rochester Police Officers were called for multiple gunshots on North Clinton Avenue in the City of Rochester. Due to the chaotic scene, an ambulance was unable to get to the victim. Rochester Police Officers immediately began performing life-saving measures on Willie Wofford who had been shot five times, before he was transported by a patrol car to Strong Memorial Hospital. He died from his injuries at the hospital.

After a thorough investigation by the Rochester Police Department, Joshua Williams was identified as the assailant responsible for Willie Wofford's murder. Following the shooting, he fled the state and was arrested in North Charleston, South Carolina. The Rochester Police Department was assisted by the United States Marshal Task Force Charleston County Officers.

The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant District Attorney Aliyah Fowler, of the Major Felony Bureau, and Senior Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm, also of the Major Felony Bureau.

"The murder of Willie Wofford was senseless, violent, and completely unnecessary," said Assistant District Attorney Aliyah Fowler. "I want to thank the Rochester Police Department for their attempts at life-saving measures for the victim and their thorough investigation that resulted in the identification and apprehension of Joshua Williams. I also want to thank the United States Marshals Task Force for his apprehension. I am content that one more dangerous individual is unable to further promote violence in our community."

"The early morning hours of July 5, 2022, were violent and chaotic," said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. "Joshua Williams caused violence, confusion, and the death of Willie Wofford. He had no regard for the life of the victim and risked the lives of everyone around him. Today's conviction is a much-needed resolution for the loved ones of Willie Wofford."

Joshua Williams will be sentenced on December 8, 2023, in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Walsh.

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