

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

January 10, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Darnell Wallace Jr. Pleads Guilty to Manslaughter in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree after  
Selling Fatal Opioids to Nathan Chesterton**

Rochester, NY- On Wednesday, January 9, 24-year-old Darnell Wallace Jr. pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and six counts of Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree for causing the opioid-related death of Nathan Chesterton

Nathan Chesterton was found deceased on August 10, 2018. The investigation revealed that he purchased heroin laced with fentanyl from Darnell Wallace Jr. shortly before his death. After a thorough investigation conducted by the Monroe County Heroin Task Force unit of the Greater Rochester Area Narcotics Team (GRANET) and the Monroe County Sheriff's Office, Darnell Wallace Jr. was charged with Manslaughter in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and multiple of narcotics sale and possession charges.

Darnell Wallace Jr. will receive a sentence to 5-15 years in the New York State Department of Corrections for Manslaughter in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, and 8 years in the New York State Department of Corrections on for the six counts of Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, to run concurrently.

“Drug-dealers can no longer plead ignorance because we have said it over and over again, if you sell an illegal drug that results in a fatal overdose, we will charge you with a homicide,” said Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley. “Darnell Wallace Jr. sold heroin laced with fentanyl to Nathan Chesterton, knowing that this is a deadly combination. The Monroe County District Attorney's Office does not tolerate the individuals pushing this poison in our community.”

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Robin Catalano, Deputy Bureau Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau.

“I want to thank GRANET, the Monroe County Heroin Task Force and the Monroe County Sheriff’s Office for the detailed investigation that led to yesterday’s admission of guilt,” said Assistant District Attorney Robin Catalano. “This investigation not only brought justice to Nathan Chesterton’s friends and family, but it prevents Darnell Wallace Jr. from continuing to sell these life-threatening narcotics to the members of our community.”

Darnell Wallace Jr. will be sentenced on February 6, 2019, in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Renzi.

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