

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

November 1, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIRECTOR: Calli Marianetti
Monroe County District Attorney's Office
47 South Fitzhugh Street
Rochester, NY 14614
(585) 753-4532

**Jury Finds Shawn Appleberry Guilty of Murder in the 2nd Degree and
Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree**

Rochester, NY- Wednesday, November 1, 2023, a Monroe County Jury convicted 48-year-old Shawn Appleberry of Murder in the Second Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree for the murder of Desmin Diggs on March 21, 2022.

On March 21, 2022, shortly after midnight, Rochester Police Officers and emergency responders were called for a man shot on East Ridge Road near Hollenbeck Street in the City of Rochester. Upon arriving at the scene, officers found Desmin Diggs in the parking lot of a business, where he was pronounced deceased.

Rochester Police Officers identified Shawn Appleberry as Desmin Diggs' killer. Shawn Appleberry was arrested following the shooting after attempting to hide the murder weapon. The two men did not have a relationship before Shawn Appleberry pulled his illegally possessed firearm and shot Desmin Diggs. Shawn Appleberry was apprehended by the Rochester Police Department and was charged with the murder.

The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant District Attorney Kevin Sunderland, of the Special Victims Unit.

"The murder of Desmin Diggs was senseless, violent, and unprovoked," said Assistant District Attorney Kevin Sunderland. "I want to thank the Rochester Police Department for their investigation that resulted in the quick identification of Shawn Appleberry. It is my hope that the loved ones of Desmin Diggs can find closure with today's conviction."

"The murder of Desmin Diggs was completely unnecessary and without reason," said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. "The defendant's quick reaction to pulling an illegal firearm and shooting was a reckless and violent decision that resulted in a murder. Today's conviction is a much-needed resolution for the family and friends of Desmin Diggs."

Shawn Appleberry will be sentenced on December 18, 2023, in front of Monroe County Court Judge Miller.

###