

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

March 9, 2022

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

Black Jewelz Convicted of Murder in the 2nd Degree

Rochester, NY- Wednesday, March 9, 2022, a Monroe County Jury convicted 37-year-old Black Jewelz of Murder in the 2nd Degree, Attempted Murder in the 2nd Degree and Assault in the 2nd Degree for the murder of David Oquendo and the attempted murder of another victim.

On October 11, 2019, Black Jewelz created a disturbance at the RTS Transit Center that escalated to a physical altercation and RTS security intervention. Later that day, Rochester Police Officers were called to Bragdon Place in the City of Rochester, where they located 24-year-old David Oquendo, who was stabbed in his upper torso. David was transported to Strong Memorial Hospital, where he later died from his injuries. Minutes later, another male victim was stabbed on St. Paul Street and was transported to Strong Memorial Hospital, where he recovered from his injuries.

The Rochester Police Department quickly identified Black Jewelz as the assailant in the three incidents. Both victims were unknown to him. Black Jewelz was released to parole from the New York State Department of Corrections the previous year.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Rachel Clark, Deputy Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

“After two and a half years, today’s conviction provides justice for David Oquendo and the second stabbing victim,” said Assistant District Attorney Rachel Clark. “The past years have been traumatic for Mr. Oquendo’s family and they can rest assured today knowing that their loved one’s assailant faces a life sentence. Black Jewelz has shown time and time again that he has no interest in being a productive member of our community and is best served in the New York State Department of Corrections.”

“Black Jewelz took the life of a young man who had family and friends who loved him deeply, before stabbing another victim on the same day,” said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. “Black Jewelz’s history proves that he is a violent offender who will only continue to be a danger to society. It is our hope that our community is safer after today’s just conviction.”

Black Jewelz will be sentenced on April 6, 2022, in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Renzi.

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