

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

March 20, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Michael Sheppard Pleads Guilty to Aggravated Sexual Abuse

Rochester, NY- On Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 31-year-old Michael Sheppard pled guilty to Aggravated Sexual Abuse in the 2nd Degree.

On September 15, 2019, Michael Sheppard attacked the 20-year-old student at the Eastman School of Music while he was out on parole.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Elizabeth Buckley, Chief of the Sex Crimes Bureau, part of the Special Victims Trial Division.

“I want to thank the University of Rochester Public Safety and the Rochester Police Department for their diligent efforts that led to today’s admission of guilt,” said Assistant District Attorney Elizabeth Buckley. “This investigation and subsequent plea not only brings justice to the victim, but it also prevents her from reliving this trauma by having to testify at trial.”

“The Monroe County District Attorney’s Office has zero tolerance for these dangerous and invasive attacks,” said Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley. “Michael Sheppard violated and attacked this victim and will now spend the rest of his life as a registered sex offender. Thanks to the outstanding effort made in this investigation, he will be prevented from harming more members of our community.”

Michael Sheppard will be sentenced on April 12, 2019, in front of County Court Judge DeMarco. In addition to his sentence, he will also be required to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

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