

News Release from
The Honorable Sandra Doorley
Monroe County District Attorney

March 14, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Monroe County District Attorney's Office Honored after Recovering over
\$2,000,000 in Fraudulently Obtained Unemployment Benefits**

Rochester, NY- On March 14, 2019, the Director of Fraud Investigations for the New York State Department of Labor Vincent Coyne presented Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley with a Certification of Merit after recovering over two million dollars during her tenure. Since 2012, the Monroe County District Attorney's Office recovered these funds from individuals convicted of unemployment insurance fraud. Through the Crimes Against Revenue Program (CARP), the attorneys of the Economic Crimes Bureau were able to ensure the return of these funds to the New York State Department of Labor, which come back to benefit Monroe County.

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley made unemployment fraud a priority when she took office and created the Economics Crime Bureau in 2012 which she tasked with prosecuting cases of tax fraud, welfare fraud, insurance fraud and financial crimes committed against individuals and businesses in Monroe County. Over the past seven years, the Economic Crimes Bureau has returned over two million dollars to the New York State Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund, establishing the Monroe County District Attorney's Office as one of the three leading counties in New York State for restitution recovery.

Money collected is returned directly to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund, where it can be used to help those in Monroe County who truly need the help. The money collected by the Monroe County District Attorney's Office has provided over 7,000 weeks of unemployment benefits for those in need.

"I am incredibly proud of our Economic Crimes Bureau attorneys who take their jobs very seriously and have helped to return millions of stolen dollars back to Monroe County," said Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley. "Insurance fraud is only a small aspect of our Economic Crime Bureau. The three Assistant District Attorneys in this bureau work diligently to prosecute a variety of financial crimes. I am delighted whenever my attorneys are able to recover taxpayer dollars and we will continue to work with law enforcement and the NYS Department of Labor to demonstrate our commitment to prosecuting fraud and those who cheat the system."

“Under the leadership of District Attorney Sandra Doorley, our office has the resources it needs to assist our government partners in collecting these fraudulent dollars,” said Mark Monaghan, Second Assistant District Attorney. “Unemployment benefits are meant for those who are trying to support their families after falling on hard times, which is why it is so important that we continue to prosecute those who are fraudulently taking funds from our community members who need a helping-hand.”

“We are proud of the collaborative relationships we have developed with the Department of Labor’s Office of Special Investigations and the New York State Police,” said Assistant District Attorney Michael Bezer, Chief of the Economic Crimes Bureau. “Restitution recovered in these cases enables the state to better assist members of our community that have lost their jobs and need financial support while pursuing new employment. We will continue to work hard for the people of the State of New York and the residents of the County of Monroe.”

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