

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

December 10, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Thomas Howard Convicted of Robbery in the 1st Degree

Rochester, NY- Monday, December 9, 2019, a Monroe County Jury convicted 28-year-old Thomas Howard of Robbery in the 1st Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 3rd Degree and three counts of Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the 4th Degree after robbing a victim at gunpoint.

On the night of March 8, 2019, Thomas Howard robbed the victim at gunpoint as he exited a Chase bank in the City of Rochester. Mr. Howard stole the victim's wallet, phone and keys. The following day the Rochester Police Department identified a suspected vehicle, which led to a high-speed pursuit through the City of Rochester, with the vehicle left abandoned. A police K9 track led to the weapon and the defendant and Thomas Howard was arrested.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Michael Harrigan, Deputy Bureau Chief of the Major Felony Bureau.

"Today's verdict is justice for the victim who feared for his life at the hands of Thomas Howard," said Assistant District Attorney Michael Harrigan. "I want to thank the Rochester Police Department, whose resources and swift investigation led to the apprehension of Thomas Howard."

"Thomas Howard put this victim through a traumatic experience, holding and robbing the victim at gunpoint," said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. "Mr. Howard has no regard for his victim or the residents of the City of Rochester when his crimes led the police in a chase through the City of Rochester. We are pleased with the verdict and hope the victim can find justice and peace knowing that this violent defendant will spend years in the New York State Department of Corrections."

Thomas Howard will be sentenced on January 27, 2020, in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Schiano.

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