

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

January 17, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Herley Williams Sentenced to 40 Years to Life for the Murder of Todd Jones**

Rochester, NY- On Friday, January 17, 2025, New York State Supreme Court Justice Miller sentenced 35-year-old Herley Williams to 40 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections for the murder of Todd Jones. He was sentenced to 25 to Life for Murder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree consecutive to 15 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision for Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. Herley Williams was previously convicted by a jury of Murder in the Second Degree and three counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree.

On July 21, 2023, Rochester Police Officers were called to North Goodman Street in the City of Rochester for a shooting. The officers quickly discovered 35-year-old Todd Jones, who was dead at the scene. It was determined that he was standing at the corner of North Goodman Street and Diringer Place, when he was shot in the chest.

After a thorough investigation by the Rochester Police Department, Herley Williams was arrested eleven days later by the United States Marshals Violent Felony Fugitive Taskforce. At the time the defendant was arrested for the murder, he also had an illegal gun in his possession. Herley Williams and Todd Jones were known to each other.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Kennedy, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau and Senior Assistant District Attorney Ryan Mulcahy, also of the Special Investigations Bureau.

“Today’s life sentence was made possible due to the excellent investigation from the Rochester Police Department, in tandem with the civilian witnesses who were critical in putting together this important case,” said Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Kennedy. “Herley Williams’ actions were violent and deliberate. As a second violent felony offender, Herley Williams was well aware of the consequences of his actions that stripped away Todd Jones’ life from his friends and family. Today, our community is safer with Herley Williams incarcerated.”

“Todd Jones did not deserve to die on a street corner in broad daylight,” said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. “Herley Williams has proven to this community that he has no interest in abiding by the laws and has no regard for human life. I hope that today’s life sentence brings peace to Todd Jones’ family, who can rest knowing that their loved one’s murderer may spend the rest of his life in the New York State Department of Corrections.”

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