

News Release from
The Honorable Sandra Doorley
Monroe County District Attorney

February 11, 2025

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

Michael Benjamin Convicted of three counts of Predatory Sexual Assault

Rochester, NY- On Tuesday, February 11, 2025, 40-year-old Michael Benjamin was convicted by a Monroe County jury of three counts of Predatory Sexual Assault, Kidnapping in the 2nd Degree, two counts of Sexual Abuse in the 1st Degree, two counts of Criminal Sexual Act in the 1st Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3rd Degree for the kidnapping and violent sexual assault of a woman on May 26, 2024.

On May 26, 2024, Rochester Police Officers received a call about the abduction of a young woman. In the early morning hours, the victim was taken by force in the area of North Clinton Avenue in the City of Rochester. The Rochester Police Department immediately conducted an investigation to locate the victim.

After conducting a quick and thorough investigation, Rochester Police Officers were able to identify the location of the victim and the kidnapper. By the afternoon of the same day, investigators were able to bring the victim to safety and arrest Michael Benjamin for the kidnapping.

During the course of the investigation, it was determined that Michael Benjamin violently sexually assaulted the victim for the duration of the kidnapping.

This case was prosecuted by Special Assistant District Attorney Jessica Wagner, of the Special Victims Unit.

“I cannot overstate the strength and resilience of this victim who experienced an unimaginable trauma at the hands of Michael Benjamin,” said Assistant District Attorney Jessica Wagner. “The defendant is a violent sexual offender who should not be permitted to reside in our community. I commend this survivor’s strength and courage and I want to thank her family for their support and cooperation in this intense investigation. I want to also thank the Rochester Police Department for their quick investigation. Because of their fast actions, the victim was able to be reunited with her family on the same day as the kidnapping. I hope that today’s conviction will assist this survivor in her journey to recovery.”

“Michael Benjamin is a violent sexual predator and a danger to our entire community,” said Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley. “Predatory Sexual Assault Against is one of the most heinous sexual abuse charges and Michael Benjamin deserves to spend the rest of his life incarcerated for his despicable actions against this victim. I hope that today’s verdict can help the victim heal from this terrible trauma. Thank you to the victim, her family, and the Rochester Police Department for helping to secure today’s important conviction. It is the hope of the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office that this dangerous individual will never again hurt anyone in our community.”

Michael Benjamin is scheduled to be sentenced on March 11, 2025, in front of New York State Supreme Court Justice Sinclair.

###