

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

August 5, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Whitney Morris Sentenced to 19 Years to Life for the Murder of Christopher Porchea

Rochester, NY- On Monday, August 5, 2024, Monroe County Court Judge Douglas Randall sentenced 33-year-old Whitney Morris to 19 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections for the murder of Christopher Porchea. Whitney Morris was previously convicted by a jury of Murder in the 2nd Degree.

On November 26, 2021, at approximately 6:45PM, Rochester Police Officers located 51-year-old Christopher Porchea with a gunshot wound to his upper body in a parking lot at Norton Street and North Clinton Avenue. He was taken to the hospital via ambulance, where he died from his injuries three days later.

After a thorough investigation by the Rochester Police Department, the Monroe County Crime Analysis Center, and the New York State Division of Parole, Whitney Morris, a parolee and registered sex offender, was developed as a suspect. A jury found him responsible for Christopher Porchea's murder.

The case was prosecuted by First Assistant District Attorney Perry Duckles and Assistant District Attorney Michael Harrigan, Chief of the Homicide Bureau.

"I am relieved that over two and a half years later, the family and friends of Christopher Porchea are finally able to have a resolution to their loved one's murder," said First Assistant District Attorney Perry Duckles. "Christopher Porchea was walking our city streets, unaware that the defendant had been stalking him. Their meeting was not a chance encounter, rather it was a calculated attack that left Mr. Porchea fighting for his life. I want to thank the Rochester Police Department, the Monroe County Crime Analysis Center, and the New York State Division of Parole Officers for their thorough investigation that resulted in the identification and apprehension of Whitney Morris."

"Whitney Morris is a murderer, a sex offender, and a danger to our entire community," said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. "Instead of re-entering society and trying to lead a lawful life, Whitney Morris followed Christopher Porchea, ambushed, and killed him. He had no regard for the life of the victim and risked the lives of everyone around him. Our community is safer with the defendant in the New York State Department of Corrections, away from Monroe County. Today's life sentence is a much-needed and long awaited resolution for the loved ones of Christopher Porchea."

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