

News Release from
The Honorable Sandra Doorley
Monroe County District Attorney

June 3, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR: Nancy Scibetta
Monroe County District Attorney's Office
47 South Fitzhugh Street
Rochester, NY 14614
(585) 753-4681

Samuel J. Smith Guilty of Attempted Murder in the Second Degree

Rochester, NY- Yesterday, a Monroe County Jury found 24 year old Samuel J. Smith guilty of Attempted Murder in the Second Degree, Assault in the First Degree and Criminal Use of a Firearm in the First Degree for the May 20, 2013 shooting of a 17 year old pregnant female on Danforth Street in the City of Rochester. At approximately 3:30 in the afternoon that day, Smith produced a handgun and fired at the victim, striking her in the abdomen and causing her to be seriously injured. The young woman and her unborn child survived the shooting, and were taken to Strong Memorial Hospital, where they remained for three weeks. Smith fled the scene after the shooting, but was apprehended by the Rochester Police Department days later.

The case was prosecuted for the People by First Assistant District Attorney Kelly Wolford. During the trial, evidence was introduced by the People establishing that during the commission of this crime, Smith was trying to kill the 17 year old to avenge the death of a female who was murdered less than a week before. The evidence established that Smith followed the 17 year old and her boyfriend, looked her in the face, smiled and shot at her, then turned the gun on her boyfriend.

"The jury's verdict provided some justice for this brave young woman who was shot in broad daylight in our City" said Wolford. "This conviction is another example of people coming forward and doing the right thing. This community needs its citizens to understand that the only way to break the vicious cycle of violence in our City is to come forward and tell what happened. One year after being shot, the victim in this case finally has some justice."

Smith will be sentenced on July 2, 2014 before New York State Supreme Court Justice Alex Renzi, where he faces up to 30 years in prison. Smith was remanded to custody without bail following the verdict, and will remain in the Monroe County Jail until sentencing.

###