

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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Monroe County Grand Jury Indicts Darius Bursey & Van
Cotton for Murder**

Rochester, NY- On Wednesday, a Monroe County Grand Jury indicted Darius L. Bursey (23) and Van K. Cotton (22) for the January 22nd murder of Lamar Shahid during an altercation in a home on Columbia Avenue. Shahid, who was 18 years old at the time of his death, suffered a single gunshot wound to the torso and later died at Strong Memorial Hospital. A second man escaped the incident unharmed.

Bursey and Cotton are each charged with one (1) count of Murder in the Second Degree and one (1) count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree.

Upon learning that he was a suspect in the victim's death in the days following the incident, Bursey turned himself in to authorities. Cotton, however, fled the state and was recently apprehended in North Carolina, where he currently awaits extradition.

"Lamar Shahid's murder was one of the first in 2012, a year that has proven to be a violent one for our city," said Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley. "Though it's been many months since Lamar's tragic and untimely death, I am pleased that we've apprehended his alleged killers and look forward to giving his family some measure of closure."

If convicted, the defendants face up to 25 years to life in prison.

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