

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

November 20, 2015

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

**Robert Wilson Convicted of Forcible Rape in the First Degree and Attempted Strangulation in the Second Degree**

Rochester, NY- Today, a Monroe County Jury found Robert Wilson guilty of forcible Rape in the First Degree, Attempted Strangulation in the Second Degree, and Rape in the Third Degree. During the early morning hours of February 23, 2015, Robert Wilson accompanied a fellow resident of Sanctuary Village homeless shelter in the City of Rochester on a walk. On Oregon Street near the Rochester Amtrak station, Wilson led the woman into a snowy field where he then attacked her, pushing her to the ground, and then placing his hands around her neck in an attempt to strangle her. When he believed she had passed out, he raped her. She pretended to be unconscious because she was afraid he would actually choke her out if he continued, leaving her unconscious in the -7 degree weather. When he finished raping her, he carried her out of the field to nearby Ormond Street where the victim saw a City of Rochester snowplow. She ran to the snowplow and got help from the driver of the plow who assisted the victim and contacted the Rochester Police Department. Wilson was able to get away that evening but was arrested two days later. Robert Wilson faces between 5 and 25 years in State Prison.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Leslie Schildt of the Special Victims Trial Division.

“This was an incredibly traumatic ordeal for the victim. The jury’s verdict is a tribute to her courage in seeing this through to the end. We hope this verdict will be the start of the victim’s long road to recovery,” said Assistant District Attorney Leslie Schildt.

Robert Wilson will be sentenced on January 6, 2016 by Justice Alex Renzi.

The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Laura Vanderbrook of the Non-Violent Felony Bureau.

"Adam Thomas has demonstrated a violent nature in his repeated attacks on innocent victims. When a 29 year-old individual attacks a 94 year-old woman from behind it becomes a community safety issue. We applaud the jury for their decision today and feel justice has been served," said Assistant District Attorney Laura Vanderbrook.

Adam Thomas will be sentenced on January 19, 2015 by Justice Thomas Moran.

###