

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

June 21, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Edward Smith Pleads Guilty in Death of Mother**

Rochester, NY- Today, Edward Smith, 49, pled guilty to charges of Vehicular Manslaughter in the Second Degree and DWAI-Drugs for his involvement in a single car crash that resulted in the death of his mother on March 5, 2012. On the morning of that date, Smith was driving his mother, 88 year old Elizabeth Washington, to the hospital to visit her dying husband (Smith's father), when Smith lost control of the vehicle and struck a tree. Washington, who had to be extracted from the vehicle, was pronounced dead at Strong Memorial Hospital a short time later. Her husband, whom she never arrived to see, died the same day. A blood sample surrendered by Smith following the accident later revealed that he was high on cocaine at the time of the crash.

Assistant District Attorney Karin Intermill prosecuted the case for the People.

“While Edward Smith certainly didn't intend to kill his mother the morning of March 5<sup>th</sup>, his decision to operate a vehicle while under the influence of narcotics demonstrated a criminal disregard for the safety of not only his passengers, but every other person on the road,” said Intermill. “It's my sincere hope that this sentence and the tragic events that brought it about serve as a warning to anyone who might consider actions similar to those that claimed Elizabeth Washington's life.”

As a condition of the plea, Smith will serve 2-4 years in state prison. He will next appear in court on July 24<sup>th</sup>, and is scheduled to be sentenced August 28<sup>th</sup>.

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