

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

April 21, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Black Jewelz Sentenced to 52 Years to Life for the Murder of David Oquendo**

Rochester, NY- On Thursday, April 21, 2022, New York State Supreme Court Justice Renzi sentenced 37-year-old Black Jewelz to 52 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections. This sentence comes after his jury conviction of Murder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Attempted Murder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Assault in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree for the murder of David Oquendo and the attempted murder of another victim.

On October 11, 2019, Black Jewelz created a disturbance at the RTS Transit Center that escalated to a physical altercation and RTS security intervention. Later that day, Rochester Police Officers were called to Bragdon Place in the City of Rochester, where they located 24-year-old David Oquendo, who was stabbed in his upper torso. David was transported to Strong Memorial Hospital, where he later died from his injuries. Minutes later, another male victim was stabbed on St. Paul Street and was transported to Strong Memorial Hospital, where he recovered from his injuries.

The Rochester Police Department quickly identified Black Jewelz as the assailant in the three incidents. Both victims were unknown to him. Black Jewelz was released to parole from the New York State Department of Corrections the previous year.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Rachel Clark, Deputy Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

“Thanks to the incredibly efficient and outstanding efforts of the Rochester Police Department’s Major Crimes Unit, this violent felony offender will no longer terrorize our community,” said Assistant District Attorney Rachel Clark. “The loss of Mr. Oquendo has devastated his family and it is my hope that they find solace in knowing that their loved one’s assailant has a life sentence. Black Jewelz’s violent and murderous actions have no place in our society and he will now face the consequences of his behavior in the New York State Department of Corrections.”

“Today’s sentence is a victory for justice, given Black Jewelz ruthless actions on October 11, 2019, where he brutally took the life of David Oquendo, before stabbing another victim on the same day,” said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. “Black Jewelz’s history proves that he is a violent offender who has no regard for the law. He will no longer be a threat to our community as he serves a lengthy sentence in the New York State Department of Corrections.”

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