

News Release from
The Honorable Sandra Doorley
Monroe County District Attorney

August 16, 2019

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

Brian Colaneri and Andrew Crysel Sentenced to 4-12 Years for Terrorism Charges

Rochester, NY- August 16, 2019, 20-year-old Brian Colaneri and 19-year-old Andrew Crysel were sentenced by Monroe County Court Judge Valleriani to 4-12 years in the New York State Department of Corrections after pleading guilty to Conspiracy in the Second Degree as a Crime of Terrorism.

Between September of 2018 and January of 2019, Vincent Vetromile, Brian Colaneri, and Andrew Crysel engaged in the deliberate planning of a domestic terrorism attack aimed at the Muslim community of Islamberg in Delaware County, New York. All three defendants planned the acquisition of weapons and discussed methods and strategies for their attack. Vetromile, in particular, solicited another individual to manufacture improvised explosive devices to be used in furtherance of this conspiracy.

Vetromile is scheduled to be sentenced on August 29, 2019, also in front of Judge Valleriani and faces between 7 and 12 years in the New York State Department of Corrections, with 5 years post-release supervision.

The case was prosecuted by Matthew Schwartz, Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau, and Senior Assistant District Attorney Daniel Strollo of the Major Felony Bureau.

“This case proves that the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office will not tolerate any acts of terrorism on any community,” said Assistant District Attorney Matthew Schwartz. “This horrible incident shows the importance of coming forward if you believe there is any chance of violence against another. Thank you to the members of the community who voiced their concerns and the Greece Police Department for investigating the matter.”

“I want to strongly thank the Greece Police Department for their swift, deliberate actions that saved lives and prevented an attack on the Islamberg community,” said District Attorney Sandra Doorley. “These defendants targeted the inhabitants of Islamberg solely because of their religious beliefs and will have years in the New York State Department of Corrections to reflect on the severity of their actions. Today’s sentence sends a clear message that we will not tolerate hate and violence in any form.”

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