

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

December 12, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Ernest Hughey Sentenced to 20 Years**

Rochester, NY- On Tuesday, December 12, 2023, 38-year-old Ernest Hughey was sentenced by Monroe County Court Judge Douglas Randall to 20 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. Following a jury trial, Ernest Hughey was convicted of three counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree.

On July 17, 2022, a woman was riding in the passenger seat of a vehicle driven by Ernest Hughey. After an argument, she feared for her life and jumped out of the car. Upon fleeing the vehicle, Ernest Hughey shot at her four times from his vehicle. Thankfully, the victim was not struck by the bullets. She called Rochester Police Officers, who immediately began an investigation.

The Rochester Police Department worked closely with the victim, collected casings at the scene of the shooting, and conducted a thorough investigation into the incident. When Ernest Hughey was located by Rochester Police Officers, he was found with the illegal firearm from the shooting, a pipe bomb, and body armor. After an initial struggle, Ernest Hughey was arrested by the Rochester Police Officers.

The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Tony DiPerna, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

“Ernest Hughey had no qualms about recklessly and violently shooting his illegally possessed firearm,” said Assistant District Attorney Tony DiPerna. “The defendant is a violent individual and it is my hope that he contemplates the error of his ways over the next twenty years in the New York State Department of Corrections. Today’s sentence is a testament to the victim’s willingness to come forward and work with the police. I want to give my sincerest thanks to the Rochester Police Department for their detailed investigation that resulted in today’s sentence.”

“I have said it time and time again, today’s illegal weapon possession can be tomorrow’s shooting or homicide,” said Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley. “Ernest Hughey made several poor decisions that resulted in him nearly killing a woman and risking the lives of strangers. Thank you to the victim and the Rochester Police Department for helping to remove another illegal firearm from our streets. Gun violence continues to plague our community and today’s sentence is proof that the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office will not tolerate this unnecessary violence.”

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