

News Release from
The Honorable Sandra Doorley
Monroe County District Attorney

September 11, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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James Barkley Convicted of Assault in the Second Degree

Rochester, NY- Yesterday, Justice Alexander Renzi found 58 year old James Barkley guilty of Assault in Second Degree for an attack on his girlfriend, Annette Morse. On April 3, 2015, the Rochester Police Department responded to call at 72 Council Street in the City of Rochester. When they arrived, they found the victim, Barkley's girlfriend lying in the street, covered in blood. The victim told police Barkley hit her in the head and all over her body with a 2x4. When the police entered the home, they found the board. As a result of pressure from the defendant and his family, the victim was unable to be located for the trial. As a result, the conviction was an evidence based prosecution.

The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Eleanor Biggers of the Special Victims Bureau.

"Domestic violence is one of the most difficult crimes to prosecute as victims are often reluctant to press charges or testify. The pressure they face from friends and family to not cooperate can be overwhelming. In this case, the testimony of the Rochester Police Department's responding officers and the medical personnel that treated the victim at the hospital were instrumental in the conviction of James Barkley," said Assistant District Attorney Eleanor Biggers.

James Barkley faces up to 7 years in prison with 5 years of post-release supervision. He is scheduled to be sentenced by Justice Alexander Renzi on October 7, 2015.

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