

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

October 27, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Eric Clay Sentenced to 18 years to Life for the Murder  
of 25 Year Old Justin Crowder**

Rochester, NY- Today, Monroe County Court Judge John L. DeMarco sentenced forty-five year old, Eric Clay to 18 years to life for the November 2, 2015 murder of twenty-five year old Justin Crowder. On August 23, 2016 Judge DeMarco convicted Clay of Murder in the Second Degree, Attempted Murder in the Second Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Fourth Degree and Menacing in the Second Degree. On the day of the murder, Clay was in a dispute with his neighbor over a motor vehicle accident. An argument ensued and the defendant fired one shot from a shotgun at his neighbor, missing him, but striking and killing Crowder.

The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Greg Colavecchia of the Major Felony Bureau and Senior Assistant District Attorney Cassie Kocher of the Special Investigations Bureau.

"As a result of his actions on November 2, 2015, Eric Clay could spend the rest of his life in the Department of Corrections," said Assistant District Attorney Cassie Kocher. "His violent behavior demonstrates a lack of regard for others. This sentence cannot bring back Justin Crowder but our hope is that it will help his family begin the healing process."

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