

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

July 18, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Desmond O'Neill Sentenced to 18 Years to Life for the Sexual Assault of a Child**

Rochester, NY- On Wednesday, July 17, 2024, 38-year-old Desmond O'Neill was sentenced by Monroe County Court Judge Randall to 18 years to Life in the New York State Department of Corrections. Desmond O'Neill was previously convicted by a Monroe County jury of Predatory Sexual Assault Against a Child and Endangering the Welfare of a Child for the sexual abuse against a child under the age of 13.

This case was investigated by Monroe County Sheriff's Office. This abuse occurred on or about and between April 1, 2017 and April 7, 2020 in the Town of Chili. The defendant and the victims were known to each other. Desmond O'Neill also was convicted of Endangering the Welfare of a Child for risking the welfare of a separate child victim between April 1, 2019 and October 31, 2023.

This case was prosecuted by Special Assistant District Attorney Kevin Sunderland, of the Special Victims Unit.

"These young victims showed incredible strength in reporting their abuse and facing their assailant in court," said Assistant District Attorney Kevin Sunderland. "It is because of the strength of these victims, that Desmond O'Neill is heading to the New York State Department of Corrections, where he can no longer abuse any more children. I want to thank the Monroe County Sheriff's Office for their thorough investigation and Bivona Child Advocacy Center for their critical work with the survivors in this case. It is the hope of the Monroe County District Attorney's Office that the resilience of these young survivors will assist them as they continues to heal from this unspeakable trauma."

"A life sentence is appropriate for this sexual predator," said Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley. "For years, Desmond O'Neill committed among the vilest of acts against this child and put her through physical and mental anguish. We are so proud of the strength the victims showed leading up to and during this trial. Desmond O'Neill is a monster who must not re-enter our community for the safety of our children. If you know or suspect a child may be in danger, I urge you to call law enforcement or Bivona Child Advocacy Center."

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