Kevin D. Croninger, *District Attorney*Sarah Skiles, *Assistant District Attorney*Charles D. Betthauser, *Assistant District Attorney*Julie L. Lafleur, *Assistant District Attorney* 



## Office of the District Attorney

Monroe County, Wisconsin

Date: February 25, 2021

For Immediate Release

Contacts:

Kevin Croninger, Monroe County District Attorney (608) 269-8780 #0

## WARRENS MAN CONVICTED OF MULTIPLE COUNTS RELATED TO VEHICULAR HOMICIDE IN RELATION TO 2017 WRECK

[SPARTA WI] Today, Monroe County District Attorney, Kevin D. Croninger announced today that on February 24, 2021, a Monroe County jury convicted 48 years old Yancy K. Dieter, of one count of Reckless Homicide, one count of Homicide by Intoxicated Use of a Vehicle, one count of Homicide by Use of a Vehicle with a Prohibited Alcohol Concentration, one count of Knowingly Operate While Revoked Causing Death and one count of Failure to Install an Ignition Interlock Device. The charges against Mr. Dieter stem from a 2017 incident near Warrens, in which a vehicle Dieter was driving was involved in a wreck which caused the death of the victim who was a passenger in the vehicle. Crash reconstruction demonstrated that Dieter was traveling at speeds in excess of 120 miles per hour in the moments just prior to the wreck. A sample of Dieter's blood, taken several hours after the wreck, showed a blood alcohol concentration of .192. Experts with the State Laboratory of Hygiene estimated Dieter's blood alcohol concentration to be between .21 and .296 at the time he was operating the vehicle. This blood alcohol concentration was between 10 and 15 times the legal limit for Dieter, which was .02.

After four days of trial the jury deliberated for just over three hours before reaching their verdicts. "The jury's verdicts send a strong message that the citizens of Monroe County will not tolerate anyone endangering the lives of others by intoxicated use of a motor vehicle. Mr. Dieter engaged in extremely dangerous and reckless behavior in 2017 which caused the death of the victim. I am grateful the jury took the time, considered the evidence in full and delivered a verdict that provides justice to the victim and his family."

The prosecution of this case was led by Monroe County Assistant District Attorney Sarah Skiles. Croninger praised the work and dedication of his Assistant District Attorney. "Assistant District Attorney Skiles is one of the best prosecutors in the State. She has provided an extremely high level of service to the people of Monroe County for more than five years and her immense skill as a prosecutor and litigator were on full display throughout this matter both before and at trial."

Monroe County Justice Center ~ Room 2400 112 South Court Street Sparta, WI 54656-1765 Telephone: (608) 269-8780 Victim/Witness: (608) 269-8030

Fax: (608) 269-8919 e-mail: monroe.call@da.wi.gov The investigation of the homicide was led by Sergeant Ryan Oswald of the Monroe County Sheriff's Office. Sergeant Oswald was assisted by the Wisconsin State Patrol, the Wisconsin Crime Laboratory, the University of Wisconsin Pathology Department, as well as others.

Croninger praised the efforts of all of those involved in the investigation. "These types of cases can be extremely difficult to investigate, the first few hours after this type of event happens are incredibly important to bringing a perpetrator to justice. Sergeant Oswald led and coordinated an investigation that was top notch. The investigation uncovered a plethora of evidence necessary to achieve an appropriate result at trial. He, as well as, all of those involved in the investigation deserve a significant amount of praise for their efforts. Without these efforts justice would not have been achieved."

Following the jury's verdicts, Monroe County Circuit Court Judge Richard Radcliffe, who presided over the case, revoked Dieter's bond and remanded him to custody pending sentencing. Sentencing is currently scheduled for **April 21, 2021 at 2:00pm.** 

###

