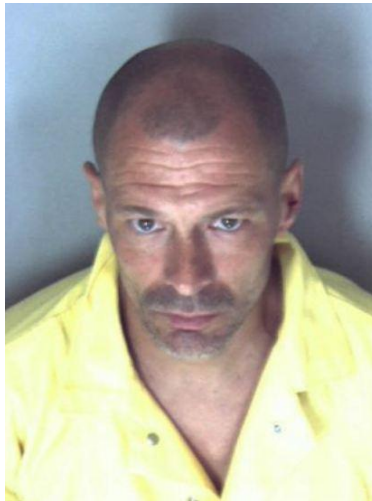




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## **Persistent Violent Felon Pleads Guilty in Colonie Attack**



**ALBANY, NY** - District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that JAMES SAYERS, 44, of Albany, pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Attempted Assault in the First Degree, a Class C Violent Felony, before the Honorable Thomas A. Breslin in Albany County Supreme Court this morning.

On 5:53pm on August 11, 2014, SAYERS did attempt to cause the serious physical injury of a woman by means of stabbing her with a knife. SAYERS followed the woman off of a CDTA bus on Watervliet Shaker Road in the Town of Colonie and attacked her in a wooded area.

SAYERS is a registered Level 3 Sex Offender who was under the supervision of Parole at the time of the attack.

“Sayers can be considered one of the most dangerous defendants we have seen in Albany County in some time,” commented DA David Soares. “He targeted his victim and sought to isolate her before he attacked. What he didn’t realize was that he chose the wrong woman. As a former veteran of the Gulf War, our victim vigilantly fought off her attacker and ensured her survival. The response by law enforcement was exceptional in this case. The Colonie Police Department, the New York State Division of Parole, the Albany Crime Analysis Center, and the Major Offense Unit of the DA’s Office all took quick action to remove this predator from the streets and from society.”

SAYERS faces up to 18 years to Life in State Prison as a Persistent Violent Felony Offender when sentenced on November 24, 2014.

Major Offenses Unit Bureau Chief Eric Galarneau and Assistant District Attorney Steven Sharp are prosecuting this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh (518) 275-4710.



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