

# Irondequoit sex trafficker sentenced

**Will Cleveland**

Rochester Democrat  
and Chronicle  
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An Irondequoit man who assaulted women whom he sexually trafficked has been sentenced to 17 to 21 years in state prison.

A jury in state Supreme Court in March convicted John Spencer, 43, of 22 criminal counts, including eight counts of sex trafficking and promoting prostitution. The crimes largely stemmed from Spencer's prostitution operation he ran out of a city home.

State Supreme Court Justice Alex R. Renzi sentenced Spencer on Wednesday. The sentence includes five years of post-release supervision.

Three women whom Spencer trafficked testified at his trial, according to Assistant District Attorney Elizabeth Buckley, who heads the sex crimes bureau at the Monroe County District Attorney's Office.

Between April 2015 and October 2016, Spencer, also known as Smurf, forced the three women to sell themselves for money, Buckley said. The three women were all in their 20s, Buckley said.



**Spencer**

"Spencer preyed upon these vulnerable victims, convincing them they needed his support for

food and shelter while supplying them with illegal narcotics," according to a release.

Spencer advertised the victims on prostitution websites. The New York State Police special investigations unit investigated and arrested Spencer on Aug. 25, 2017.

"John Spencer is among the most dangerous types of predators, he sought out, groomed and brainwashed his vulnerable victims," Buckley said in a release.

"Sex trafficking occurs right here in Monroe County, especially to those who are suffering from drug addiction. Victims are exploited by the dealers who feed their powerful addiction and are forced into prostitution. If you or someone you know is a victim of sex trafficking, the Monroe County District Attorney's Office urges you to reach out to law enforcement as soon as possible."

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