

## Rochester woman scheduled for mental health testing

**Jayla Jackson** Rochester Democrat and Chronicle USA TODAY Network

A Rochester woman who admitted to making terroristic threats against East High School earlier this year appeared in court Monday to be sentenced, but her attorney requested she go through a mental health evaluation instead.

In making the request, Michael Geraci, who represents Abigail Hernandez, said that there has been a “decline in her mental health” ever since Hernandez was remanded by federal officials.

Sentencing for Hernandez was rescheduled for August and results of the evaluation will determine her fate.

In February, Hernandez posted on Facebook and threatened to shoot students at East High School. She was arrested on multiple felony terrorism charges.

The 21-year-old special education student was charged in March with two counts of making a terroristic threat. She was a student at Edison Career and Technology High School at the time and graduated while still incarcerated, last month.

She pleaded guilty to third-degree falsely reporting an incident, a misdemeanor, on June 27 in Monroe County Court. While in court, she acknowledged making two threatening Facebook posts against East High in Rochester as her stepfather and numerous other supporters looked on.

Hernandez was taken into custody by agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement shortly after being released from the Monroe County Jail.

Hernandez is an undocumented immigrant who was brought to the United States from Mexico by her mother at age 3.

Removal proceedings were initiated shortly after her arrest and Hernandez was held for almost a month at the Buffalo Federal Detention Center in Batavia.

While Hernandez’s parents have offered no specifics about her disability, they say she has special needs and is very dependent on her family.

Hernandez is scheduled to appear back in court at 9:30 a.m. Aug. 14.

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**Abigail Hernandez’s sentencing was postponed for a mental-health evaluation on Monday. Her next court appearance is Aug. 14. Hernandez tried to hide her face from cameras.** TINA MACINTYRE-YEE/  
ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE

