



J. HANLEY

WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

PRESS RELEASE
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State's Attorney J. Hanley

Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley has declined to file charges after a fatal stabbing that happened in Rockford in June.

On June 23, 2023, Rockford Police responded to a domestic battery call in the 2200 block of 19th Avenue. Officers found a male victim, later identified as Roger Penie, with an apparent stab wound. Penie was transported to a Rockford hospital, but succumbed to his injuries. Detectives conducted an investigation determining that after an argument, Penie began beating a female, whom he had an intimate relationship with, inside the apartment. He struck her multiple times and pulled her across the apartment by her hair. The female saw a knife on a table, grabbed it and stabbed Penie once in the back. Detectives saw that the female's eye was extremely swollen and bruised. In a meeting with the female a few days later, detectives observed bruising and scratching on other areas of her body. Penie also had a prior history of domestic battery involving this female.

Illinois law provides that a person is justified in the use of force when and to the extent that she reasonably believes that such conduct is necessary to defend herself or another against the imminent use of unlawful force.

Rockford Police Department Detectives conducted the investigation. After a thorough review, the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office determined that no criminal charges are warranted against the female.

CONTACT PERSON:

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