



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 announces that **Darrell D. McLin (DOB: 3/10/1980)** was found guilty of First Degree Murder and one count of Attempt First Degree Murder after a jury trial in front of the Honorable Judge Brendan Maher.

On June 10, 2021, Rockford Police Officers responded to the Kwik Mart parking lot located at 1203 7th Street in Rockford for a ShotSpotter alert. Officers located a male victim with a gunshot wound to his abdomen. Officers also learned that a female victim, later identified as Latonya Whitfield, was transported to a Rockford hospital for a gunshot wound to her torso. At the hospital, Whitfield was pronounced deceased and the Winnebago County Coroner's autopsy confirmed the cause of her death was the result of being shot. During the investigation, detectives interviewed witnesses and reviewed security camera footage of the Kwik Mart parking lot. The defendant, Darrell McLin, was developed as a suspect. During the trial, witnesses identified McLin as the person who fired the shots in the direction of the male victim, striking and killing Whitfield.

First Degree Murder is a Class M Felony. Due to a firearm being used, the offense is punishable by 45-85 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections to be served at 100% followed by a term of mandatory supervised released of three years.

Attempt First Degree Murder is a Class X Felony that is punishable by a sentence of 6-30 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections to be served at 85% to be followed by a term of mandatory supervised release of three years. Due to a firearm being used, the offense is punishable by an additional 20 years to Life sentence in the Department of Corrections. This sentence will be served consecutive to the First Degree Murder sentence.

McLin is scheduled to be back in court for status on March 1st at 3:00 in front of the Honorable Judge Maher in Courtroom D of the Winnebago County Criminal Justice Center.

The Rockford Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. First Assistant Ken LaRue and Assistant State's Attorney David Smith handled the prosecution.

CONTACT PERSON:

J. Hanley, Winnebago County State's Attorney