



J. HANLEY

WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

PRESS RELEASE
April 17, 2024
State's Attorney J. Hanley

Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley announces that **Payton J. Hatch (DOB: 7/3/2001)** was found guilty of two counts of Criminal Sexual Assault after a jury trial before the Honorable Judge Debra Schafer.

In September of 2020, South Beloit Police Department Detectives launched an investigation after two females reported that they had been sexually assaulted. It happened at a home in the 5200 Block of Hutchinson Drive in South Beloit. The defendant, Payton Hatch, was developed as a suspect. The investigation was reviewed by the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office and Criminal Sexual Assault charges were authorized.

Criminal Sexual Assault is a Class 1 Felony that is punishable by a sentence of 4-15 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections followed by three years to natural life of mandatory supervised release.

Hatch is scheduled to be back in court at 10:30am on May 16, 2024, in front of Judge Schafer in Courtroom 317 of the Winnebago County Courthouse.

The South Beloit Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorneys Emily Palmer and Andrew Fisk handled the prosecution.

CONTACT PERSON:

J. Hanley, Winnebago County State's Attorney
815-319-4700