



J. HANLEY

WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

PRESS RELEASE

May 3, 2024

State's Attorney J. Hanley

Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley announces that **William C. Jones (DOB: 10/16/1982)** plead guilty to one count of First Degree Murder in front of the Honorable Judge Brendan Maher.

On January 11, 2023, Rockford Police Officers responded to Pinnon's Meats, in the 2300 block of North Court Street for a shooting. Upon arrival, officers located a female victim, later identified as Peggy Anderson, lying on the ground near stairs at the back of the business with a single gunshot wound to her chest. Anderson was transported to a Rockford hospital, where despite all life-saving efforts, she succumbed to her injuries. Detectives conducted a follow up investigation, and identified the defendant, William Jones, as the suspect. Surveillance video from the business showed Jones assault and rob Anderson as she was walking out of the backdoor of the business. Jones then fled in Anderson's vehicle with several items he took from her. A short time later, Anderson's vehicle was located abandoned in an alley driveway of a residence in the 2000 block of Douglas Street. A warrant was issued for Jones and in March of 2023, he was arrested in the State of Alabama.

First Degree Murder is a Class M Felony that is punishable by a sentence of 20-60 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections followed by three years of Mandatory Supervised Release. The sentence imposed shall be served at 100%.

Jones is scheduled to be sentenced at 10:00am on June 21, 2024, by Judge Maher in Courtroom D of the Winnebago County Criminal Justice Center.

The Rockford Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. First Assistant State's Attorney Ken LaRue is handling the prosecution.

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