



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 **Kathryn Williams (DOB: 10/3/1969)** was convicted of two counts of Class X Aggravated Battery to a Child and two counts of Class 3 Aggravated Battery to a Child, and two counts each of Reckless Conduct and Endangering the Life/Health of a Child following a Bench Trial in front of the Honorable Judge Debra Schafer.

On or about August 30, 2018, Winnebago County Sheriff's Police began investigating the defendant, Kathryn Williams, after receiving a report that she was insisting on medical care for two of her children that they did not require. During the investigation, detectives found that both the children had feeding tubes, parts of their colon removed and received ileostomy bags. The children were catheterized 24 hours a day seven days a week. Hospital beds, refrigerators for medications and shelves full of medical supplies were found inside Kathryn Williams' home in the 8000 block of Kelley Road in Winnebago. Both children were removed from the home by authorities on August 31, 2018, and taken to Lurie's Children's Hospital in Chicago. During their stay at Lurie's Children's Hospital, the Child Protection Team sought to determine what if any medical conditions and needs the children were medically necessary. The Child Protection Team was able to wean the children off of multiple medications, remove feeding tubes and reverse other unnecessary medical interventions. The medical conditions of each child improved within days after they were removed from the care of their mother, Kathryn Williams. A thorough review of medical records was conducted, and it was determined that Williams reported exaggerated or false medical claims and medical diagnoses to medical professionals for both of her children which resulted in unnecessary medical interventions and medications, some of which could have been life threatening.

Aggravated Battery to a Child charge is a Class X Felony that is punishable by a sentence of 6-30 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The sentence is to be served at 85% and followed by up to three years of Mandatory Supervised Release. This charge is based upon the evidence that Kathryn Williams caused narcotic pain medication to be administered to both of her children, resulting in them becoming addicted to the medication and requiring medical intervention to recover.



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Aggravated Battery to a Child charge is a Class 3 Felony that is punishable by a sentence of 2-5 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections and is also probationable. This charge is based upon the evidence that Kathryn Williams forced medical professionals to insert catheters on both children when it was not medically necessary.

Reckless Conduct is a Class A Misdemeanor that is punishable by a sentence of up to a year in jail and/or two years of probation.

Endangering the Life of a child is also a Class A Misdemeanor that is punishable by a sentence of up to a year in jail and/or two years of probation.

Williams is scheduled to be back in court on May 30, 2025 before Judge Schafer in Courtroom 317 of the Winnebago County Courthouse.

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

CONTACT PERSON:

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