



J. HANLEY

WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

PRESS RELEASE
November 26, 2025
State's Attorney J. Hanley

Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley announces that **Mario E. Williams (DOB: 7/21/1991)** was sentenced to 85 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections for First Degree Murder. Mario Williams was found guilty by a jury on November 21, 2024, in front of the Honorable Judge Ronald White.

On May 11, 2019, Robert Brooks was shot and killed while sitting on the lower east side stairwell of the apartment building located at 4120 Auburn St. (Auburn Manor). The victim's friend was present during the shooting and provided a description of the suspect. Mario Williams was interviewed regarding this murder and denied being at Auburn Manor on the evening of May 9, 2019, or morning of May 11, 2019. A search warrant was conducted on Williams' cellular phone. Cell phone data put the defendant in the area of Auburn Manor at the time of the murder. Furthermore, Detectives spoke with another witness who advised on the morning of the murder, Williams showed up at her house claiming he had shot and possibly killed someone by Auburn Manor.

First Degree Murder is a Class M Felony that is served at 100% and be followed by a term of mandatory supervised released of three years.

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

CONTACT PERSON:
J. Hanley, Winnebago County State's Attorney