



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 a Rockford man has been charged in connection with a homicide that occurred in Altoona, Wisconsin. **Charles A. Gray (DOB: 6/26/1977)** faces Concealment of a Homicidal Death charges.

On April 12, 2022, Rockford Police Officers responded to the 600 Block of Race Street in reference to a deceased body found in the Rock River. Upon arrival, officers discovered the body of an adult male, later identified as Dennis Schattie, near the Fordham Dam. Officers also observed burnt debris and motor oil containers on the shoreline near the deceased body. During the investigation it was determined that the deceased was the victim of a homicide that had occurred in Altoona, Wisconsin. His deceased body was brought to Rockford where it was found burned and in pieces in the Rock River. Several people have been arrested and are facing charges in Altoona for this incident. Recently, detectives received information that the defendant, Charles Gray was involved in the incident.

On Friday, January 17, 2025, Gray appeared in Initial Appearance Court. Concealment of a Homicidal Death is a non-detainable offense under current pretrial detention statutes. Gray was released and is scheduled to be back in court again on February 20, 2025, before the Honorable Judge Brendan Maher in Courtroom D of the Winnebago County Criminal Justice Center.

Concealment of a Homicidal Death is a Class 3 Felony that is punishable by a sentence of 2-5 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections followed by a year of Mandatory Supervised Release.

The Rockford and Altoona Police Departments conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorneys Alison Meason and Joseph Carder will handle the prosecution.

The charges are merely allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until or unless proven guilty in a court of law.

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