



J. HANLEY

WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

PRESS RELEASE
September 14, 2026
State's Attorney J. Hanley

Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley announces that **Hector L. Aguayo, Jr. (DOB: 5/13/1986)** was found guilty of two counts of Attempt First Degree Murder, two counts of Aggravated Battery with a Firearm, and one count of Conspiracy after a two day jury trial before the Honorable Judge Debra Schafer. The jury also found that the allegation that the defendant was armed with a firearm at the time of the offenses was proven beyond a reasonable doubt.

On November 6, 2025, Rockford Police responded to the 800 block of Ferguson Street after a report that two people had been shot. Upon arrival, officers located an adult female and an adult male, both with gunshot wounds. The female was hit in the abdomen, and told police she could not see because she had been sprayed with mace. The male victim had a gunshot wound to his back and had also been sprayed with mace. Both victims were transported to Rockford hospitals for treatment of serious injuries. During trial, the female victim told the jury that the defendant, Hector Aguayo, shot her. Aguayo, his sister, Judy Aguayo, Judy's daughter Jenali Alvarado, and Daniel Garrett are all charged in this case. The victim testified that her daughter, and one of Judy Aguayo's daughters, both approximately 10 years old, had not been getting along. The conflict escalated over months and led up to the defendant, and allegedly, his sister, Garrett, and Alvarado working together on this attack. Both victims testified that the defendant received the gun from his sister Judy. They also told jurors that Alvarado arrived on the scene and immediately pepper sprayed the victims. The cases against Judy Aguayo, Daniel Garrett, and Jenali Alvarado are currently pending. Those defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Attempt Murder is a Class X Felony that is punishable by 6-60 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections, to which 15 years shall be added for the firearm enhancement, followed by three years of mandatory supervised release. Truth in sentencing applies and the defendant must serve 85% of his sentence.

Aggravated Battery with a Firearm is a Class X Felony that is punishable by 6-60 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections followed by three years of mandatory supervised release. Truth in sentencing applies and the defendant must serve 85% of his sentence.

Conspiracy is a Class 1 Felony that is punishable by 4-30 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections followed by one year of mandatory supervised release.



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Aguayo is scheduled to be back in court for a status on post-trial motions on October 13, 2026, before Judge Schafer in Courtroom 317 of the Winnebago County Courthouse.

The Rockford Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorneys Jennifer Gadow and Emily Palmer are handling the prosecution.

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