



J. HANLEY

WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

PRESS RELEASE
February 27, 2025
State's Attorney J. Hanley

Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley announces that the Honorable Judge Debra Schafer sentenced **Brandon Taylor (D.O.B. 11/1/1992)** to 57 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections for First Degree Murder. Taylor will also be on Mandatory Supervised Release for three years after he is released from prison. The defendant was found guilty of the offense after a jury trial in February of 2023.

On Oct 8, 2020, in the early morning hours, Brandon Taylor and three other codefendants committed a home invasion at a residence in the 1300 block of 15th Avenue. When the codefendants did not locate what they wanted during the home invasion, they made one of the occupants of the residence call another individual to bring drugs to the residence. That individual asked his mother, Tammy Gonzalez, to give him a ride. When they arrived, another codefendant fired a shot at the vehicle, hitting and killing Tammy Gonzalez.

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 18 months of Mandatory Supervised Release. This charge carries an additional 15 year Prison sentence because the defendant was armed with a firearm during the commission of the crime. The sentence is to be served at 100%.

The Rockford Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorney Alison Meason handled the prosecution.

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