

J. HANLEY WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

PRESS RELEASE December 10, 2025 State's Attorney J. Hanley

Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley announces that **Amin Naz (DOB:** 12/31/1993) was found guilty of Aggravated Arson after a bench trial before the Honorable Judge Debra Schafer.

On April 1st 2024, Rockford Fire Investigators responded to a home in the 1200 block of 4th Avenue after a residential structure fire. While conducting an origin and cause, investigators determined that the fire was intentionally set. One of the homeowners, who was inside at the time of the fire, was transported to a Rockford hospital then transferred to Madison with serious injuries. Two dogs were also inside the home, and one of them died as a result of the fire. During the trial, prosecutors introduced security video from outside the residence that showed Amin Naz walk through the backyard with a gas can. You could see Naz break a window, pour ignitable liquid, then start the fire and run away. Naz used to live next door to the residence he set on fire.

Aggravated Arson is a Class X Felony that is punishable by a sentence of 6-30 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections followed by three years of mandatory supervised release. The sentence must be served at 85%.

Naz is scheduled to be back in court on January 16, 2026 in front of Judge Schafer in Courtroom 317 of the Winnebago County Courthouse.

The Rockford Fire Department conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorney Emily Palmer handled the prosecution.

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