



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 the Honorable Judge Debra Schafer sentenced **Ronald J. Schuenke, Sr. (DOB: 9/9/1952)** to 20 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections for Criminal Sexual Assault. Schuenke will also be on mandatory supervised release for three years to the rest of his life upon release from prison. The defendant plead guilty to the charge in April.

In December of 2024, Winnebago County Sheriff's Deputies began investigating a sexual abuse report involving the defendant, Ronald Schuenke, Sr. During the investigation, detectives learned that Schuenke had sexually assaulted and abused a female child multiple times over several years. The victim was only five years old when the abuse started. She was 10 at the time it was reported.

Criminal Sexual Assault is a Class 1 Felony, with a sentencing range of 4-30 years in prison. The sentence must be served at a rate of 85%.

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Department conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorney Emily Palmer handled the prosecution.

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