



J. HANLEY

WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

PRESS RELEASE

July 31, 2026

State's Attorney J. Hanley

Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley announces that **Deonte M. Johnson (DOB: 11/11/1986)** was found guilty of two counts of predatory criminal sexual assault of a child after a jury trial before the Honorable Judge Scott Paccagnini.

In January of 2021, Rockford Police Detectives began investigating after a 12 year old child disclosed that she had been the victim of a sexual assault by the defendant, Deonte Johnson. The victim reported that Johnson had inappropriate contact with her hundreds of times when she was between the ages of 2 and 11. During the trial, the victim told jurors details of the abuse and said Johnson told her not to tell anyone. Jurors also heard from another minor who reported that in 2019 Johnson had sexually abused her while she was sleeping over at the house of a family friend.

Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault 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 to natural life of mandatory supervised release. The sentences are to be served at 85% and are served consecutively.

Johnson is scheduled to be back in court on August 14, 2026, at 1:30PM before Judge Paccagnini in Courtroom 478 of the Winnebago County Courthouse.

The Rockford Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorney Kirstin Krivanec and Supreme Court Rule 711 Harrison Barch are handling the prosecution.

CONTACT PERSON:

J. Hanley, Winnebago County State's Attorney
815-319-4700