

J. HANLEY WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

PRESS RELEASE January 23, 2025 State's Attorney J. Hanley

Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley announces that two men charged after a shooting at Auburn High School plead guilty to Attempt First Degree Murder Charges. Nyreek Williams (DOB: 12/20/2005) and Franquon Wright (DOB: 11/27/04) were subsequently sentenced to 20 years each in the Illinois Department of Corrections by the Honorable Judge Scott Paccagnini. Williams and Wright will also be on Mandatory Supervised Release for three years after they are released from prison. The sentences must be served at 85%.

On January 4, 2022, Rockford Police Officers were dispatched to Auburn High School after reports of a shooting. Upon arrival, officers located two victims in a car in the parking lot, suffering from gunshot wounds. The victims were transported to a Rockford hospital to be treated for non-life-threatening injuries. During the investigation the defendants, Nyreek Williams and Franquon Wright, were developed as suspects. A review of surveillance video from the school shows Williams and Wright get out of a vehicle armed with guns. They approached another vehicle and fired their weapons several times at it. Later in the day, officers located the suspect vehicle occupied by the defendants. The vehicle crashed into a guard rail at the dead end on Wills Avenue. The occupants attempted to flee the area, however a K-9 assisted and tracked both Williams and Wright hiding in a garage in the 2900 Block of Lapey Street.

Attempt First Degree Murder 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 Rockford Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorney Kirstin Krivanec handled the prosecution.

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