



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 **David W. Baldwin (DOB: 9/14/1976)** was found not "Not Guilty" of First Degree Murder after a discharge hearing before the Honorable Judge Debra Schafer.

The defendant was previously found to be mentally unfit to stand trial after being treated at Elgin Mental Health Center for one year. As a result of the defendant not being fit to stand trial, a discharge hearing was held to determine if there was sufficient evidence to continue to detain him and attempt to restore him to fitness. Due to the defendant being found not "Not Guilty," he will be sent back to the Elgin Mental Health Center for up to five years for further treatment to try and restore him to fitness. Should the defendant be restored to fitness, he would then stand trial for First Degree Murder.

The following evidence was presented during the discharge hearing. On September 13, 2019 at around 9:24pm, Winnebago County 911 received a call for a possible residential burglary in progress at 333 E. 7th St, Pecatonica, Illinois. The caller, later identified as the defendant, indicated that he observed someone inside the residence with a flash light. The defendant indicated that the burglar was inside his house, he was lying on the floor, and that he had stabbed him in the neck, throat and stomach. Upon arriving at the residence, Officers located an individual who was later identified as Scott Rocen, deceased from 13 stab wounds. The residence had no operating utilities, was in severe disarray, was overrun by rodents, and was not habitable. The investigation revealed that earlier in the night, the defendant, Scott Rocen, and a neighbor were drinking alcohol. At some point, the defendant left and returned to his residence. The neighbor indicated that when the defendant did not return, Scott went to check on him. While the defendant was detained, he stated that he was tired of people breaking into his house and stealing from him without consequences.

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Department conducted the investigation in this case. First Assistant State's Attorney Ken LaRue is handling the prosecution.



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