



**J. HANLEY**

WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**May 7, 2026**

### **State's Attorney J. Hanley**

Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley announces that **Christian M. Burgos (DOB: 05/02/2000)** plead guilty to one count of aggravated domestic battery before the Honorable Judge Jennifer Clifford.

On June 29, 2025, Rockford Police responded to an address on 8th Street for a domestic complaint. Upon arrival, they met with a victim who reported that the defendant, Cristian Burgos, pulled a door off of the frame and attacked her. Burgos punched her multiple times and strangled her to the point she was unable to breathe. Officers observed visible injuries on the victim's face and torso, as well as property damage at her residence which Burgos caused during the altercation. Following his arrest, Burgos was ordered to have no contact with his victim while his case was pending. As the case progressed, the victim attempted to recant her account of abuse by offering an affidavit. When Burgos set his case for trial, she refused to appear on her subpoena.

Prior to trial, investigators with the State's Attorney's Office uncovered nearly two thousand attempted phone calls from Burgos to his victim from the Winnebago County Jail, in continued violation of his court order. Hundreds of those calls were accepted. In the recorded conversations that ensued, investigators learned that he had coached her affidavit and coerced her into not appearing on her subpoena for trial. Prosecutors then filed a motion exposing Burgos's ongoing manipulation and abuse of his victim from the jail. That motion sought to proceed to trial on the victim's original statements to police if she did not appear to testify, because the defendant was the reason she would not appear. That motion was granted, ensuring that despite his efforts, the truth of his abuse would not be silenced. On the eve of trial, Cristian Burgos pled guilty to Aggravated Domestic Battery, the most serious charge he faced. He accepted a two-year term of probation with multiple terms and conditions, including an order barring contact with his victim, with the potential for further jail or prison time if it is violated.

The Rockford Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorneys John Finley and Peyton Young handled the prosecution.



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