

J. HANLEY WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

PRESS RELEASE September 1, 2023 State's Attorney J. Hanley

Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley announces that **Antonio Monroe** (**DOB: 05/01/1979**) was sentenced to the maximum sentence of 90 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections by the Honorable Judge Randy Wilt. Monroe plead guilty to First Degree Murder and Attempt First Degree Murder after he killed a child and choked another child in Rockford in July.

On July 8, 2023, Rockford Police officers responded to a residence after a woman reported that her 6-year-old child came home and advised that a grown man had taken her 10-year-old sibling. A short time later, Rockford Police officers were flagged down by an adult male who reported that there was an unresponsive child outside of a residence in the 1200 block of 9th Avenue. Officers located the child and immediately began CPR. Rockford Fire Department personnel arrived and transported the child to the hospital, where the child was pronounced deceased.

After setting up a perimeter, Rockford Police located the defendant, Antonio Monroe, in the area of 9th Street and Woodruff Avenue. During the course of the investigation, Monroe admitted to using a promise of money to lure the victims to the back yard of the residence in the 1200 block of 9th Avenue. Monroe advised that he grabbed both victims at the same time, threw them to the ground, and choked them at the same time. Monroe admitted to leaving the area after a witness saw him. State's Attorney Hanley stated: "Today's conviction and sentence will do little to ease the heartache caused by this horrible crime. But it is our hope that the family, and the community, will take some solace in knowing that Monroe will spend the rest of his life in prison."

First Degree Murder is a Class M Felony. The offense is punishable by 20-60 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections to be served at 100%, followed by a term of mandatory supervised released of three years. Attempt First Degree Murder is a Class X Felony. The offense is punishable by 6-30 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections to be served at 85%. Any sentence imposed must be served consecutively to the sentence imposed by the First Degree Murder charge. In this case, Monroe was sentenced to the maximum of 60 years in the Department of Corrections for First



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Degree Murder and the maximum of 30 years in the Department of Corrections for Attempt First Degree Murder.

The Rockford Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorney Kirstin Krivanec handled the prosecution.

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