



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 on February 23, 2022, **Kedrick Burden (DOB 11/9/92)** was found guilty of Domestic Battery after a jury trial before Judge Debra Schafer.

On July 18, 2020, Penitra Anderson called 911 and said her boyfriend, Kedrick Burden, beat her up. Officers with the Rockford Police Department responded to the residence, where Penitra Anderson told officers what happened to her. Officers on scene observed several injuries on Penitra's body in various locations. Kedrick Burden had fled from the scene prior to police officers arriving and a warrant was issued for his arrest. Mr. Burden was served with his warrant on August 17, 2020 and when he appeared in bond court, Penitra Anderson filed a statement with the court denying that Burden had beat her up and claimed she lied to police.

On August 20, 2021, the State filed a motion with the court asking to find Penitra Anderson unavailable as a witness since the State was unable to serve her with a subpoena despite several attempts. Furthermore, the State was seeking permission to proceed to trial without the presence of Penitra Anderson and allow the State to have other witnesses testify as to what Penitra told them on scene the day of the domestic battery. The Court granted this motion on November 24, 2021 and held that Penitra Anderson was unavailable for trial and her statements would be allowed in pursuant to a specific section authorizing hearsay statements in Domestic Violence cases. After the order was entered by the Court allowing the hearsay statements to be admitted, Penitra Anderson then appeared for trial on February 22, 2022 without having been ever served a subpoena to be there. Penitra, who admitted she was still in a relationship with Kedrick, told the jury that she had lied when she originally called the police to report the domestic battery. Despite her denial of what happened, the jury found the defendant guilty of domestic battery.

On March 4, 2022, Kedrick Burden was sentenced to 6 months conditional discharge and 120 days in Winnebago County Jail. Kedrick Burden remains in the custody of the Winnebago County Jail while pending on other charges, including Attempt Murder. The Rockford Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorneys Ali Friend and Melissa Voss handled the prosecution.

CONTACT PERSON:

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