



## **MARILYN HITE ROSS**

WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

### **PRESS RELEASE**

**May 4, 2020**

### **State's Attorney Marilyn Hite Ross**

Winnebago County State's Attorney Marilyn Hite Ross announces that the Winnebago Boone County Integrity Task Force Investigation on the in-custody death of Joseph R. McCormick (DOB 9/24/1992) has been completed.

Joseph R. McCormick was arrested for the offense of Armed Robbery and was incarcerated in the Winnebago County jail. The defendant was first lodged at the Winnebago County jail on April 23, 2019. On Sunday, December 1, 2019 at 9:38 pm, Correction Officer's found inmate, Joseph R McCormick hanging from a sheet inside his cell. Correction officers initiated cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) while waiting for jail medical staff and paramedics to arrive. McCormick was transported by the Rockford Fire Department to Swedish American Hospital where he was later pronounced deceased. An autopsy was conducted and the cause of death was determined to be asphyxia due to hanging. The investigation was reviewed by the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office and it was determined that the death of inmate Joseph McCormick was an unfortunate suicide.

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