



**J. HANLEY**

WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

**PRESS RELEASE**

**May 23, 2024**

**State's Attorney J. Hanley**

Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley announces that **Antwain D. Storey (DOB: 9/2004)** was found guilty of First Degree Murder after a jury trial before the Honorable Judge Debra Schafer.

On December 20, 2020, shortly after 1:00 p.m., Rockford Police Officers responded to a parking lot behind 1021 Broadway and found an adult male, deceased. The victim was later identified as Bennie Johnson. A Winnebago County Coroner's autopsy determined that Johnson died as a result of a gunshot wound. During the follow up investigation, the defendant, Antwain Storey was developed as a suspect. Johnson's roommate testified at trial that as he was taking out the trash, he saw Johnson running down the exterior stairs of the apartment and then saw the defendant shoot Johnson. The roommate then saw the defendant flee in a vehicle. A suspect vehicle was found and it was later determined that the victim's blood was on the exterior of the vehicle. The plate of the vehicle was registered to the defendant's mother.

First Degree Murder is a Class M Felony that is punishable by a sentence of 20 to 60 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections followed by three years of Mandatory Supervised Release. This charge carries an additional term of 25 years to Natural Life sentence due to the fact that that the defendant personally discharged a firearm during the commission of the offense. Since Storey was a juvenile at the time of the murder in 2020, the maximum sentence under a new Illinois law is 40 years in the Department of Corrections.

Storey is scheduled to be back in court at 9:00am on June 28, 2024, in front of the Judge Schafer in Courtroom 317 at the Winnebago County Courthouse.

The Rockford Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. Assistant State's Attorneys Andrew Fisk and Emily Palmer are handling the prosecution.

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