



J. HANLEY

WINNEBAGO COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

PRESS RELEASE
September 17, 2025
State's Attorney J. Hanley

Winnebago County State's Attorney J. Hanley announces that **Dylan R. Denham (DOB: 02/16/1994)** was found guilty of First Degree Murder with a firearm enhancement after a three day jury trial before the Honorable Judge Debra Schafer.

On April 14, 2022, Rockford Police responded to the area of 11th Street and 6th Avenue for a Shot Spotter alert. Upon arrival, they located a male victim, later identified as Deontay Turner, on the sidewalk, not moving. Turner had been shot multiple times. He was transported to a Rockford hospital, where he was pronounced deceased. A subsequent autopsy conducted by the Winnebago County Coroner's Office showed Turner had been shot approximately 20 times. During the follow-up investigation, the defendant, Dylan Denham, was developed as the suspect. Prosecutors showed surveillance video from the 700 block of 11th street that showed Denham approach Turner from behind and fire dozens of shots striking the victim numerous times in the back. After the shooting, Denham runs to a vehicle and flees from the area. A witness testified that Denham shot Turner because he thought he was in a rival gang.

First Degree Murder is a Class M Felony that is punishable by a sentence of 20-60 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections followed by three years of mandatory supervised release. The firearm enhancement adds 25 years to natural life to the sentence of first degree murder.

Denham is scheduled to be back in court on November 13, 2025, before Judge Schafer in Courtroom 317 of the Winnebago County Courthouse for a post trial motion.

The Rockford Police Department conducted the investigation in this case. First Assistant State's Attorney Ken LaRue and Assistant State's Attorney Nathaniel Huss are handling the prosecution.

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