



Sheriff Gary Caruana
650 W. State Street
Rockford, IL 61102
(815) 319-6300

Winnebago County Sheriff's Department



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Cori Hilliard
(815) 319-6322
Hilliardc@WCSO-il.us

ARREST MADE IN WILLARD AVE MURDERS

This past Friday evening, June 30, 2023, a 17 year-old male was shot and killed in the 1400 block of Willard Ave. A 14 year-old male was also shot and transported to a local hospital with life-threatening injuries. The 14 year-old male has unfortunately succumbed to his injuries.

Winnebago County Sheriff's Detectives actively conducted a follow up investigation and were able to identify a 17 year-old male suspect. After a review of the facts of the case, Winnebago County States Attorney's office authorized the following below charges. The juvenile has been lodged in the Winnebago County Juvenile Detention Center.

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office extends its deepest condolences to the families and friends affected by this tragic loss. We hope this arrest brings each one of them a sense of closure and comfort as they begin to heal from this devastating event.

"The men and women of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office remain dedicated to serving and protecting the community and we will continue our relentless efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of all residents throughout Winnebago County." said Winnebago County Sheriff Gary Caruana.

Male, 17 years of age, of Rockford:

- 2 counts of First Degree Murder with an enhancement for the use of a firearm
- 2 counts of Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm
- Unlawful use of Weapon

The charges against him are merely accusations and he is presumed innocent until proven guilty in the court of law.

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