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Winnebago County Sheriff's Department



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Investigation Results in Arrests of Two Former Winnebago County Corrections Officers

After becoming aware of information regarding the official conduct of two former corrections officer, in November of 2021, the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department Detective Bureau launched an investigation. During the course of the investigation, detectives determined that the two former corrections officers were disseminating information regarding a confidential investigation.

On January 5, 2022, the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office reviewed the facts of the case and authorized the following charges:

Andrew J. Muto, 33, of Loves Park, IL

- Official Misconduct

Nichole E. Vaccaro-Muto, 36, of Loves Park, IL

- Official Misconduct

Nichole Vaccaro-Muto had been employed as a corrections officer for seven years with the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office. Andrew Muto had served six years with the Department. Both officers were terminated immediately. "I'm disappointed that any member of our department would violate the public's trust, and the laws that we are sworn to enforce," said Sheriff Gary Caruana. "The behavior of these two corrections officers does not reflect on the outstanding work that the rest of the men and women of our department conduct on a daily basis."

Nichole Vaccaro-Muto and Andrew Muto were arrested and lodged in the Winnebago County Jail.

The charges against Nichole Muto and Andrew Muto are merely allegations and both are presumed innocent until or unless proven guilty in a court of law.

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