

## Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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### **AURORA MAN GUILTY OF SHOOTING ACQUAINTANCE IN THE FACE**

January 12, 2018

An Aurora man is awaiting his prison sentence for shooting an acquaintance in the face during a dispute.

A Kane County jury on Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018, convicted 56-year-old **John W. Sperry** of aggravated battery with a firearm, Class X felony, and two counts of aggravated fleeing and eluding a police officer, Class 4 felony.

Kane County Assistant State's Attorneys Greg Sams and Chris Geocaris presented evidence that the afternoon of March 4, 2017, Sperry drove to the victim's house in the 300 block of Jackson Street, Aurora. At about 4:40 p.m. Sperry saw the victim in the driveway. The victim walked to the passenger side of Sperry's 1988 Cadillac Brougham, and the men began to argue. Sperry then pulled out a .38 caliber handgun and fired a single shot at the victim. The shot struck the victim in the cheek and exited from the back of his head.

Sperry immediately drove away from the scene. Police spotted him in his car a short time later about two miles away in the vicinity of Ohio and Grove streets and signaled for him to stop. Sperry refused and led police on a 14-minute chase through Aurora's east and northeast sides, ignoring multiple traffic-control devices and at times exceeding 70 mph. Police took Sperry into custody after his car struck a utility pole at Claim Street and Lincoln Avenue.

The victim continues to recover from his injury.

Circuit Judge John A. Barsanti set Sperry's next court appearance for 9 a.m. Feb. 7, 2018, in Courtroom 319 at the Kane County Judicial Center to set a date to hear motions and to set a sentencing date. Sperry faces a minimum sentence of 6 years' imprisonment in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Sperry remains in custody at the Kane County jail, where he has been held since his arrest in lieu of \$500,000 bail. Bond was revoked upon conviction.

**John W. Sperry:** Age 56 (d.o.b. 6-17-1961), of the 300 block of Grant Place, Aurora