

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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NEWARK MAN GUILTY OF FINANCIALLY EXPLOITING AURORA BUSINESS STOLE NEARLY A HALF-MILLION DOLLARS

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A Newark, Ill., man faces a possible prison sentence for stealing nearly a half-million dollars from an Aurora business.

A Kane County jury on Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2019, found 36-year-old **Darrell E. Willis** guilty of the offense of:

- Theft, Class 1 felony, 2 counts

Kane County Assistant State's Attorneys Sarah Seberger and Kelli Schmidt presented evidence that between March and May 2016 Willis stole approximately \$445,000 from an Aurora business.

Circuit Judge John A. Barsanti set Willis' next court appearance for 1:30 p.m. March 29, 2019, in Courtroom 319 at the Kane County Judicial Center. Willis faces a sentence of probation or between 4 and 15 years' imprisonment in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Willis remains free on \$30,000 bond.

"Financial crimes are not victimless crimes. This defendant's criminal acts impeded the victims personally and professionally. Financial crimes have a ripple effect in the community and can cause real economic hardships, particularly to small businesses. My office will fight for victims of white-collar crime to ensure that the business community remains strong and thriving. My thanks to the Aurora police detectives who investigated this case, and to ASAs Seberger and Schmidt for their hard work," Kane County State's Attorney Joe McMahon said.

Darrell E. Willis: Age 36 (d.o.b. 4-15-1982), of the 1-99 block of Shirley Court, Newark, Illinois. Case No. 16CF1894.