

## Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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### **SECOND MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN 2015 MURDER OF DANIEL SANCHEZ 19-YEAR-OLD AURORAN SHOT TO DEATH OVER SMALL AMOUNT OF MARIJUANA**

February 7, 2019

A second man has pleaded guilty in the 2015 shooting death of 19-year-old Daniel Sanchez of Aurora over a small amount of marijuana.

22-year-old **Keyonn S. Lovelace** today agreed to a sentence of 30 years' imprisonment in the Illinois Department of Corrections in exchange for a guilty plea to first-degree murder.

Kane County Circuit Judge Donald M. Tegeler, Jr., accepted the plea.

Kane County Assistant State's Attorney William Engerman stated in court that on Nov. 7, 2015, Daniel Sanchez agreed to sell a small amount of marijuana to Lovelace and co-defendant Leon Williams. The three met at about noon at a location they had agreed upon. Sanchez got into the back seat of a car driven by Lovelace. Williams also was in the back seat. They drove a short distance to the 600 block of Elmwood Drive to complete the drug deal. While in the car, Williams attempted to rob Sanchez of his money and the marijuana. Sanchez got out of the car and tried to run away. Williams chased him and fired two shots from a .25 caliber handgun that had been provided to him by Lovelace, striking Sanchez in the leg and head. Williams returned to the car and he and Lovelace immediately fled. Police arrived a short time later and found Sanchez lying on the ground bleeding. He was pronounced dead at Good Samaritan Hospital. The investigation led police to Williams and Lovelace. While being interviewed by police, Lovelace admitted to driving Williams to meet Sanchez for the purpose of robbing him. Lovelace also admitted to giving Williams the gun as they got into Lovelace's vehicle.

Williams last spring pleaded guilty to first-degree murder and Judge Tegeler sentenced him to 55 years' imprisonment in IDOC. The sentence includes a mandatory 25-year enhancement because Williams personally fired the gunshots that killed Daniel Sanchez.

According to Illinois law, Lovelace must serve the full sentence. He receives credit for 1,182 days served in the Kane County jail, where he has been held since his arrest in lieu of \$575,000 bail.

**Kane County State's Attorney Joe McMahon said:**

“Because this defendant unlawfully possessed a gun and provided it to his co-defendant, Daniel Sanchez is no longer with us. My office will continue to prioritize cases involving the unlawful possession and use of firearms. My thanks to the Aurora Police Department and ASAs Engerman and Matthew Rodgers for their hard work in this case.”

**Keyonn S. Lovelace:** Age 22 (d.o.b. 12-23-1996), of the 400 block of North Union Street, Aurora, Illinois. Case No. 15CF1854.

**Leon D. Williams:** Age 24 (d.o.b. 9-19-1994), of the 2400 block of North Farnsworth Avenue, Aurora