

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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EAST AURORA SCHOOL DISTRICT 131 EMPLOYEE FOUND GUILTY FOR FAILING TO REPORT SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE

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An East Aurora School District 131 has been found guilty for failing to report suspected child abuse to authorities as required by law.

A Kane County jury today found 43-year-old **Elizabeth Aguilar** guilty of the offense of failure to report child abuse as a mandated reporter, Class A misdemeanor.

Kane County prosecutors presented evidence that on March 7, 2018, Aguilar, a teacher at Bardwell Elementary School in Aurora, having reasonable cause to believe that a child known to her in her professional capacity was an abused child, failed to make a report of the suspected abuse to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

As a teacher, Aguilar is designated by Illinois' Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act to be a mandated reporter of abuse and neglect of children and is required to immediately report suspected abuse and neglect to Illinois DCFS.

Kane County Associate Judge Alice C. Tracy set Aguilar's next court appearance for 1:30 p.m. Nov. 13, 2019, for motions and sentencing in Courtroom 209 at the Kane County Judicial Center. Aguilar faces a sentence of up to 364 days in jail.

Kane County State's Attorney Joe McMahon said:

"Mandated reporters are obligated by law to report suspected child abuse. If the life and well-being of a child is at stake, it is not too much to ask. I hope this verdict sends a clear and strong message that there are consequences for those who do not take this obligation seriously.

"Mandated reporters who reasonably believe that a child may have been abused or neglected must immediately call DCFS at 1-800-252-2873 to make a report. Any person may call about suspected abuse. If a report proves to be unfounded, the law provides immunity if the report was made in good faith."

Elizabeth Aguilar: Age 43 (d.o.b. 11-4-1975), of the 300 block of Marion Avenue, Aurora