

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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HARVEY MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN 2021 AURORA CARJACKING THAT LEFT WOMAN PARALYZED

**EDWARD McGEE GETS 35 YEARS;
CO-DEFENDANTS' CASES REMAIN PENDING**

*RE: **Edward J. McGee**: Age 27 (d.o.b. 1-29-1995), of the 15600 block of Turlington Avenue, Harvey, Illinois. Case No. 2021CF752.*

October 28, 2022

Kane County State's Attorney Jamie L. Mosser and Aurora Chief of Police Keith Cross announce that 27-year-old **Edward J. McGee** has agreed to a sentence of 35 years of imprisonment in the Illinois Department of Corrections in exchange for a guilty plea to the offense of aggravated vehicular hijacking, Class X felony.

Judge Alice C. Tracy accepted the plea.

Kane County Assistant State's Attorney Mark D. Stajdohar stated in court that at about 4 p.m. January 16, 2021, in a restaurant parking lot in the 1200 block of North Orchard Road, Aurora, McGee and three others stole a car. During the theft they struggled with the car owner who was seated inside, pushing and pulling her as she struggled with them before one of the co-defendants fired at least three shots from a handgun. One bullet struck the victim, leaving her permanently paralyzed.

During the plea hearing, Judge Tracy said to McGee, "There were four of you and one of her. I don't know why someone had to shoot her. This was a completely senseless act of violence that she will be paying the price for every day for the rest of her life. I hope you think about that every day."

The sentence is 20 years for the aggravated vehicular hijacking offense, plus a mandatory 15-year enhancement because McGee was armed with a gun at the time of the offense.

According to Illinois law, McGee must serve at least 85 percent of the sentence. He receives credit for 550 days served in the Kane County jail.

ASA William Engerman, who prosecuted the case, said: "The actions of these defendants that January afternoon were violent, callous and senseless. The victim, by contrast, shows courage and bravery every day as she attempts to heal and rebuild her

life. My thanks to the Aurora Police Department, particularly detectives Chris Cox and Greg Christoffel, to FBI Special Agent Will Fuentes, to ASA Stajdohar for his assistance and to victim advocate Linda Hagemann.”

SA Mosser said: “Mr. McGee earned and deserves every day of this sentence. His decision to participate in such unnecessary violence left a woman paralyzed. I cannot begin to express my admiration for her as she continues to show remarkable spirit, determination and bravery. My thanks to ASAs Engerman and Stajdohar for their excellent work in this prosecution.”

Chief Cross said: “This was a horrific event, but also another example of law enforcement working hard to bring justice to the victim and our community. Bringing those responsible for this awful crime to justice involved tireless, dedicated and remarkable work by law enforcement. I would like to recognize Aurora Police Det. Christopher Cox, Aurora Police Det. Greg Christoffel, Addison Police Sgt. Will Fuentes, and the FBI for their hard work and dedication in this case. The conduct presented in this case should serve as a warning that if you commit an egregious crime like this, the Aurora Police Department will exhaust every resource to find those responsible and hold them accountable.”

The cases against the co-defendants are pending. The charges against the co-defendants are not proof of guilt. They are presumed innocent and are entitled to a fair trial in which it is the state’s burden to prove his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.