

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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AURORA MAN GUILTY OF VIOLATING AMENDED STALKING STATUTE

April 25, 2012

An Aurora man is the first person to be convicted by a Kane County jury under Illinois' amended stalking statute.

Thomas C. Adams (AKA John C. Cassimatis), 74 (d.o.b. 9-20-1937), most recently of the 221 South Union Street, Aurora, was convicted late Tuesday, April 24, 2012, by a Kane County jury, of one count of aggravated stalking, a Class 3 felony, and one count of violating an order of protection, a Class 4 felony.

On April 11, 2011, the victim filed an order of protection against Adams in DeKalb County court after their dating relationship had ended early in 2011 but Adams had continued to pursue the victim. On July 11, 2011, that order of protection was made permanent. On Sept. 8, Sept. 16 and Sept. 19, 2011, at her Sugar Grove residence, and on Sept. 15 and Oct. 18, 2011, at her Aurora workplace, Adams stalked the victim by driving past her residence and place of employment, which caused emotional distress to the victim, in violation of the order of protection and in violation of the new stalking statute.

An order of protection prohibits the defendant from stalking, harassing or having any contact with the victim.

The amended stalking statute, which took effect June 1, 2010, criminalizes certain behaviors toward others, such as driving by the victim's home, appearing within the victim's eyesight, showing up at the victim's workplace, sending packages to the victim, or having any contact with the victim when these actions cause the victim emotional distress.

Associate Judge Marmarie J. Kostelny set Adams' next court appearance for 1:30 p.m. May 30, 2012, in Courtroom 217 for sentencing. Adams faces a sentence of probation or between three and nine years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Adams had been held in the Kane County jail in lieu of \$150,000 bail since Nov. 8, 2011. Bond was revoked upon conviction.

"Our thanks to the jury for carefully examining Mr. Adams' course of conduct in its entirety in reaching this verdict," Kane County State's Attorney Joe McMahon said. "If

anyone experiences this type of behavior from someone, they should not hesitate to call the police every time it happens. People should be able to feel safe in their homes and at work from unwanted behavior from others.”

The case was prosecuted by Kane County Assistant State’s Attorneys Jamie L. Mosser and Lindsay Hatzis.