

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



JOSEPH H. McMAHON

State's Attorney

Kane County Judicial Center
37W777 Route 38 Suite 300
St. Charles, Illinois 60175

General Offices: (630) 232-3500
Contact:
Christopher Nelson (630) 232-3500

FORMER ELGIN POLICE OFFICER PLEADS GUILTY AFTER PLANTING EVIDENCE AT CRIME SCENE

August 15, 2012

A former Elgin police officer has pleaded guilty to attempting to interfere with a criminal investigation in April 2011.

Michael Sullivan, 54 (d.o.b. 12-17-1957), of Sycamore, today agreed with the Kane County State's Attorney to a sentence of two years' probation, 30 days in the Kane County jail and 200 hours community service in exchange for a guilty plea to one count of attempted obstruction of justice, a Class A misdemeanor.

In addition, Sullivan agreed to reimburse the Elgin Police Department \$1,000 for costs incurred while investigating the charges against him.

Associate Judge Allen M. Anderson accepted the plea.

On April 27, 2011, Sullivan, at the time an officer with the Elgin Police Department, was investigating a robbery in Elgin when he knowingly planted false evidence at a crime scene. Sullivan placed at the scene a cellular telephone that he believed belonged to a victim in the case he was investigating. Sullivan later reported his unlawful actions to superiors. Sullivan resigned a short time later, and since has cooperated with prosecutors and Elgin police.

However, as a result of Sullivan's actions, authorities dropped the charges in the case he was investigating.

"The integrity of the criminal justice system at all levels is intertwined with trust and fairness. For the people of Illinois to trust our system, we must have faith that our system is just and fair for everyone. If that integrity is compromised, the system is undermined," Kane County State's Attorney Joe McMahon said.

"Mr. Sullivan's actions were foolish, selfish and egregious. They compromised his integrity, threatened the integrity of the Elgin Police Department and the people's trust in the criminal justice system. However, it should be noted that Mr. Sullivan did come forward to his superiors and acknowledge his unlawful actions.

“I wish to commend the Elgin Police Department and the other professional police officers for acting promptly in this case to ensure that the integrity of the criminal justice system remains just and fair for all.”

According to Illinois law, Sullivan is eligible for day-for-day credit on the jail term. He had been free on a signature bond.

The case was prosecuted by Kane County Assistant State’s Attorney Alice Tracy.