

## Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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### **AURORA WOMAN GETS 12 YEARS IN PRISON FOR SHOOTING HANDGUN AT TEENAGERS**

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An Aurora woman has been sent to prison for shooting at a group of high school students after an altercation between the group and another group of students in summer 2010.

Anieka D. Johnson, 34 (d.o.b. 9-2-1977), of the 200 block of North Oakhurst Drive, Aurora, was sentenced today by Associate Judge James C. Hallock to 12 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Johnson was convicted May 16, 2012, by a Kane County jury of one count of aggravated battery with a firearm, a Class X felony, and one count of aggravated discharge of a firearm within 1,000 feet of a school, a Class X felony.

At about 4:45 p.m. Aug. 30, 2010, Johnson left her home after receiving a telephone call from her cousin advising her that her cousin's children had been involved in a fight on the west side of Aurora. After meeting with her cousin and learning the location of the SUV containing the other group of teenagers involved in the fight, Johnson chased the SUV in her Ford Windstar minivan. Johnson repeatedly sideswiped the victims' vehicle in an attempt to stop it. The chase continued west on Old Indian Trail, south on Foran Lane, west on Colorado Avenue, north on Elmwood Drive, and then east on Indian Trail. While on Indian Trail, Johnson fired two shots from a 9mm Smith & Wesson handgun at the car. One shot pierced the cargo area of the SUV and grazed a 13-year-old passenger in the chest. The other shot struck a parked vehicle in a driveway adjacent to Indian Trail. The shooting occurred within 1,000 feet of St. Rita Elementary School. The chase ended when Johnson cut off the SUV at Indian Trail and Nantucket Road. Police arrived moments later, having been alerted by an off-duty officer who witnessed the defendant's aggressive driving.

During the hearing, Kane County Assistant State's Attorney Bill Engerman said that "Johnson inserted herself into a situation that didn't involve her, and did so in a deadly manner."

Judge Hallock agreed with prosecutors that this prison sentence was necessary to deter others from committing the same crime.

According to Illinois law, Johnson must serve at least 85 percent of the sentence. Johnson was given credit for at least 122 days served in the Kane County jail.

“The sentence imposed by Judge Hallock sends a clear message that this type of behavior is unacceptable. Ms. Johnson’s decision to insert herself into a dispute among teenagers was incredibly dangerous and outrageous, as was her decision to drive recklessly through a residential neighborhood. This incident quite easily have been much worse than it was,” Kane County State’s Attorney Joe McMahon said.

“Again, in disputes between children, adults should be peacemakers and voices of reason. If children do indeed fear for their safety, the police should be called. Fortunately, no one suffered more serious injuries or death.”

Kane County Assistant State’s Attorney and Jonathan McKay prosecuted the case with ASA Engerman.