

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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30-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE FOR AURORA GUN CRIMES

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An Aurora man has been sent to prison after a Kane County jury found him guilty of being an armed habitual criminal, a Class X felony.

Kane County Associate Judge Katherine D. Karayannis on Friday, July 12, 2019, sentenced 34-year-old **Ronald Smith** to 30 years' imprisonment in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

During his May 2018 trial, prosecutors presented evidence that at about 7:45 p.m. Sept. 19, 2015, Aurora police received an anonymous tip that Smith planned to commit an armed robbery at that time in the area of the 1-99 block of North Union Street, Aurora. The tipster said Smith would be in a white Toyota pickup truck. Aurora police went to the location and saw the vehicle. Police then saw two men get into the vehicle and drive away. A short time later police stopped the vehicle for a traffic violation and saw Smith, who was sitting in the passenger seat, put something under the seat. Police asked Smith and the driver to step out of the vehicle. Smith was wearing black pants, a black sweatshirt, a black glove and had a mask around his neck. The driver gave consent for police to search the vehicle. Police found a loaded .45 caliber High Point semiautomatic pistol under Smith's seat.

According to Illinois law, because of his criminal history, Smith was not eligible to possess a firearm. Since 2001, when he reached the age of 18, Smith has been sentenced to prison four times – 10 years for a 2001 armed robbery, six years for possessing a stolen car in 2006, four years for a drug offense in 2009 and six years for drug delivery offense, also in 2009. Smith was on parole at the time of the 2015 offense for the 2009 drug delivery.

Smith must serve at least 85 percent of the sentence. He receives credit for 184 days served in the Kane County jail.

Kane County State's Attorney Joe McMahon said:

"Mr. Smith received the sentence he and the community deserved. He has a horrible criminal record and is a significant public safety threat. My thanks to the person who called police and spoke up when Mr. Smith was about to rob someone at gunpoint, to

the Aurora Police Department, which foiled a violent crime and removed a career criminal from Aurora for a very long time, and to ASA Bianca Camargo.”

Ronald Smith: Age 34 (d.o.b. 6-21-1983), of the 300 block of West Illinois Avenue, Aurora