



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Incident Location:** 300 Block of Villa Lane, Urbana, IL  
**Date of Information Release:** 01/06/2024  
**Date of Original Incident:** 07/08/2021



## **URBANA PD SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDE HIGH-PROFILE SEXUAL ASSAULT CASE WITH LENGTHY PRISON SENTENCE IMPOSED**

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In the early morning hours of July 8th, 2021, a University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) student became the victim of a harrowing home invasion and sexual assault. Awakened by a stranger standing in her residence, brandishing a metal object she believed to be a firearm and making threatening demands, the female student was subjected to a traumatic incident, including sexual assault and further degradation by the assailant. Thanks to the relentless and outstanding investigative efforts of Urbana police officers and detectives, particularly Detectives Kenneth Sprague, Darrin McCartney, Paige Bennett, Sergeant Matt McKinney and now retired Sergeants Timmy McNaught and Jennifer Difanis, the suspect, Kevin Finley of Urbana, was arrested in July 2021. Finley faced multiple felony charges, including Home Invasion and Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault.

In May 2023, Finley was found guilty by a Champaign County Jury following a multi-day trial led by then Champaign County Assistant State's Attorney Kristen Alferink. The prosecution presented a compelling case, incorporating physical evidence such as DNA, digital data, and cellular evidence. Testimonies from patrol officers and detectives, as well as a firsthand account from the victim herself, further solidified the case against Finley.

On January 4, 2024, Kevin Finley appeared in Champaign County Court for sentencing. Testimonies were presented, highlighting aggravating factors related to the conviction. Finley was suspected, but not criminally charged in multiple sexual abuse cases where he allegedly assaulted several women by grabbing their buttocks in public areas in Urbana before his initial arrest in 2021. The court also considered a 2015 case from Panama City, Florida, where Finley was arrested for Human Trafficking and Procuring a Person Under 18 for Prostitution, among other charges.

After hearing the associated evidence and testimonies, Judge Randall Rosenbaum sentenced Kevin Finley to 35 years for Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault and an additional 10 years for Criminal Sexual Abuse.

The Urbana Police Department wishes to express gratitude to all involved in bringing justice to the victim and ensuring that the perpetrator was held accountable for his actions. The successful prosecution of this violent incident underscores the commitment of the Urbana Police Department to safeguarding the community and seeking justice for survivors of sexual assault.

If you or someone you know is a survivor of sexual violence, confidential support is available through Rape Advocacy, Counseling, & Education Services' (RACES) 24/7 crisis hotline at 217-384-4444. More information is available on their website at <https://www.cu-races.org>.

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