



# JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### NATHAN D. BOWLES, CARBONDALE, FOUND GUILTY OF AGGRAVATED BATTERY

A Jackson County Jury returned a guilty verdict against Nathan D. Bowles, 36, of Carbondale, Illinois, for the charge of Aggravated Battery, following two days of testimony in a jury trial which began Monday, Michael C. Carr, State's Attorney for Jackson County, Illinois, announced today. The jury was unable to reach a verdict on the charge of Attempted Murder, which requires proof that the defendant had a specific intent to kill the victim.

On August 27, 2017, Carbondale police officers were called to a residence in the 400 block of East Sycamore Street around 4 a.m. regarding a possible stabbing victim. Upon arrival, they located a male victim with three small stab wounds in his chest area and a laceration across the side of his neck. The victim was transported to Carbondale Memorial Hospital for treatment and released several days later.

A resident witnessed the assault and provided the police an account of the altercation he observed and gave a physical description of the assailant. Bowles was developed as a suspect after the police interviewed friends and family members of the victim. Bowles was the last person known to be in the company of the victim and he also matched the physical description of the assailant given by the eye-witness. During the trial, the defendant maintained that he acted in self-defense, a claim rejected by the jury. He also claimed that he was acting in defense of his property, which he alleged was money taken from him by the victim during an attempted drug purchase, and that he did not intend to kill the victim who was at the time his best friend. The jury was unable to reach a verdict on the issue of his specific intent to kill the victim, which is required for attempt murder. Considering the felony conviction for Aggravated Battery, the Attempt Murder charge will not be retried.

Aggravated Battery, based upon great bodily harm, is a Class 3 felony which carries a sentence of two to five years imprisonment. Based upon the defendant's prior criminal history, he is eligible for an extended term of up to 10 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. A sentencing hearing is scheduled for May 23, 2018, in Jackson County Circuit Court. Bowles in being held in the Jackson County Jail awaiting sentencing.

This case was investigated by the Carbondale Police Department and the Illinois State Police, Metro-East Forensic Science Lab. State's Attorney Michael Carr was responsible for the prosecution of this case.