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## Catlin woman pleads guilty in monkey torture case

STAFF REPORT

PITTSBURGH — A Catlin woman pleaded guilty in federal court to distributing and conspiring to create and distribute animal crush videos showing violent torture of monkeys.

According to a release from Department of Justice, Western District of Pennsylvania and United States Attorney Troy Rivetti, Amanda Leigh Fourez, 33, of Catlin pleaded guilty to two counts before United States District Judge Christy Criswell Wiegand.

According to court documents



and statements during the change of plea hearing, Fourez and others conspired to pool their money to commission the creation of animal

crush videos — that is, videos that show actual obscene conduct in which living non-human mammals, in this case, monkeys, were purposely crushed, burned, drowned, suffocated, impaled, or otherwise subjected to serious bodily injury — and then distributed those videos to other group members and chat groups via an instant messaging application. Fourez acknowledges sending at least 11 payments to others to commission animal crush videos, and then knowingly distributing animal crush videos on at least 10 occasions. Fourez archived and

controlled the distribution of animal crush videos.

Another member of these groups, Joseph Garrett Buckland of Mount Pleasant, Pa., pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to create and distribute animal crush videos earlier this month.

Judge Wiegand scheduled Fourez's sentencing for Aug. 27. The law provides for a total sentence of up to seven years in prison, a fine of up to \$500,000, or both. Under the federal sentencing guidelines, the actual sentence imposed is based upon the seriousness of the offenses and the

prior criminal history, if any, of the defendant.

Assistant United States Attorney Kelly M. Locher for the Western District of Pennsylvania and Trial Attorney Emily Stone of the Department of Justice's Environment and Natural Resources Division are prosecuting this case on behalf of the government.

Homeland Security Investigations New Orleans' Cyber and Human Exploitation Investigations and the Federal Bureau of Investigation conducted the investigation that led to the prosecution of Fourez.



Peter Hancock | Capitol News Illinois

Darren Bailey, shown here speaking to supporters at a Springfield hotel on March 17 after winning the Republican nomination for governor, announced on Wednesday that he has moved into an apartment in Chicago.

## Bailey goes to Chicago

Governor candidate moves into apartment on city's South Side

BEN SZALINSKI  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

SPRINGFIELD — Darren Bailey isn't just trying to win over voters — he wants this year's campaign to be an impressive experience for Chicago residents.

Speaking to Capitol News Illinois on Wednesday before taking the stage at the annual Illinois Gun Owners Lobby Day in Springfield, the Republican nominee for governor said he's moved into an apartment on Chicago's near South Side that will serve as a sort of "headquarters" for his Chicago-area campaign operation.

It's not an entirely unusual move for Bailey, a former state lawmaker and farmer from Clay County — about four hours south of the city. He lived in the building formerly known as the John Hancock Center on Michigan Avenue four years ago with a similar goal, though it didn't pay off as he lost the race by 12 percentage points to Gov. JB Pritzker. He only received about 15% of the vote in the city.

Bailey hasn't always been fond of Chicago. Four years ago, he called the city a "hellhole" — a statement he said he no longer believes. This year's move is part of Bailey's promise to focus more on getting

to know voters in the city and suburbs.

Bailey said this doesn't mean he's forgotten about downstate voters who propelled him to the party's nomination for a second time last month.

"I feel like our base knows and understands because I communicated that continually as we were visiting within the last several months telling them that, you know, you're not going to see a lot of us after the primary," Bailey said.

Bailey said he hopes a donor will help cover the apartment's cost. State law generally prohibits using campaign funds for

homes but allows some gray area for candidates and public officials to "defray" costs. It's common for state legislators, for example, to use campaign funds to pay for a hotel or apartment in Springfield.

Apartment rent in the South Loop neighborhood starts around \$2,000 per month, according to real estate group Downtown Apartment Collective.

Gov. JB Pritzker's campaign said voters shouldn't believe that Bailey's changed his mind about the city.

"Darren Bailey has spent his

See **BAILEY** on 3

## Attempted murder, hate crime charges for Paris attackers

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PARIS — Paris Police released an update following the court

appearance of three men arrested in connection with an attack on Danville Alderman Jaleel Jones and his family while they were night fishing.



Jaleel Jones

According to a release from the Paris Police Department, two of three men remain in custody with attempted murder and hate crime charges.

Jordan J. Kollman, 29, of Paris, was charged with Attempted First-Degree Murder, Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm, Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by a Felon, and Hate Crime (involving mob action).

Jesse L. Kollman, 25, of Paris, was charged with Attempted First-Degree Murder and Hate Crime (involving mob action).

Both Kollmans were denied pre-trial release and they are both due back in court at 10 a.m. on Friday, April 24 for their preliminary hearings.

Jayden A. Reynolds was charged with mob action, according to the release.

The attack on Jones occurred on Friday, April 3 at White Oaks Park. Jones reported the men yelled slurs at him and his family members while pointing guns at them. The men then began shooting, causing Jones and his family to flee.

"I'm very much relieved that the three are booked now," Jones said. "Much relief off my back, and I feel a lot better going to Paris now knowing that."

**"Much relief off my back, and I feel a lot better going to Paris now knowing that."**

**JALEEL JONES**



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