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Minnesota's Nicole Mitchell Found Guilty of Felony Burglary in Stepmom's Home Break-In

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Senator Nicole Mitchell of Minnesota has been convicted of felony burglary after breaking into her estranged stepmother's home, a verdict that could lead to significant legal consequences and growing pressure to resign.

Mitchell, a Democrat representing Rochester, was found guilty by a jury on Friday. According to authorities, the incident involved Mitchell unlawfully entering the home of her stepmother. When questioned by police, Mitchell, 51, stated she was looking for her late father's ashes

and sentimental items. Despite this explanation, she was charged and ultimately convicted of felony burglary.

Under Minnesota law, Mitchell now faces a minimum sentence of 180 days in prison. The case has drawn attention for the crime and its implications for her role as a sitting lawmaker.

Following the verdict, members of the state legislature swiftly called for her resignation. Democratic Senate Majority Leader Erin Murphy said she expects Mitchell to step down in light of the conviction. Other lawmakers have echoed the call, urging immediate action from the senator.

Political Pressure Builds

The burglary case stems from Mitchell's entry into her stepmother's residence, which was reported to police as a break-in. Authorities responded and arrested Mitchell at the scene. She reportedly told officers she was attempting to recover personal mementos, including her father's cremated remains.

Despite the defense, the jury determined her actions met the legal definition of burglary. The felony conviction has added fuel to calls for her removal from office, particularly as lawmakers face questions about accountability and public trust.

Mitchell's role in the Minnesota State Senate has come under increased scrutiny since her arrest. She has not yet resigned or made a public statement following the jury's decision, and there is no indication whether she plans to appeal the conviction.

Under state law, a felony conviction may impact an elected official's eligibility to hold office. With the mandatory minimum sentence looming, Mitchell's future in the legislature remains uncertain.

The case has sparked wide debate within political circles in Minnesota. Mitchell, elected to the state senate in 2022, was serving her first term at the time of the incident. The conviction marks a significant turn in her political trajectory.

The court has not scheduled a sentencing date, but the minimum prison term of 180 days means the legal process is far from over. Whether Mitchell will continue to serve in her role or face removal by legislative means remains a question that is awaiting further developments.

