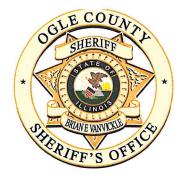
## **OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**



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Corrections Phone: (815)732-2135
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Brian E. VanVickle, Sheriff Danielle S. Hardesty, Chief Deputy

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

On Tuesday March 8, 2022 an Ogle County grand jury indicted Matthew T. Plote 34 of Malta, IL on the following counts:

- First Degree Murder (3 counts)
- First Degree Murder (1 count)
- Intentional Homicide of an Unborn Child (3 counts)
- Residential Arson (1 count)
- Aggravated Domestic Battery (1 count)
- Concealment of a Homicidal Death (1 count)

The charges stem from the November 25, 2020 death of Melissa Lamesch, her unborn child and the resulting fire which occurred in Mount Morris, IL.

Matthew Plote was arrested on March 9, 2022 without incident and appeared in Ogle County court. Mr. Plote is currently housed at the Ogle County Jail with a \$10,000,000/10% bond.

