



Eau Claire
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Matt Rokus, Chief of Police

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MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: September 7, 2024	CONTACT: Deputy Chief Derek Thomas
TIME: 12:00 PM	PHONE: 715-839-4979
# PAGES: 1 of 1	EMAIL: derek.thomas@eauclairewi.gov
SUBJECT: Homicide Update 24PD15497	     @EauClairePD

UPDATE: Eau Claire Police Investigate Homicide

On August 29, 2024, at 6:29 PM, Eau Claire Police Officers discovered the body of Michelle L. Jenkins inside her residence after being called to conduct a welfare check. The investigation and subsequent autopsy determined Michelle died as the result of multiple gunshot wounds.

Eau Claire Police Detectives conducted extensive interviews and a neighborhood canvass. This led to the identification of the suspect, Scott A. Jenkins, age 59 of Rochester, Minnesota. Scott and Michelle were siblings.

Scott's vehicle was identified and later found on Buffalo County and Eau Claire County Flock Cameras. Once Flock Cameras established a timeline, Detectives used city of Eau Claire Public Safety Cameras and discovered Scott had driven to Michelle's residence the day she was killed. Other tracking methods were employed with the assistance of the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) that also concluded Scott was at Michelle's residence.

Intelligence gathered determined Scott was traveling to and from Rochester and Winona, Minnesota. Detectives coordinated with multiple agencies in southeast Minnesota and continued to deploy other investigative tracking strategies. Detectives maintained continuous contact with law enforcement agencies in an effort to locate and apprehend Scott. A search warrant was served at Scott's residence in Rochester. Additional evidence was collected; however, Scott was not located.

On September 6, 2024, shortly after 8:00 PM, Eau Claire Police Detectives were notified that Winona Police initiated a traffic stop of Scott's vehicle on I-90 near Highway 43 with the assistance of other agencies. During the course of the traffic stop, Officers gave instructions for Scott to exit the vehicle. Officers eventually approached the vehicle and found Scott deceased in the driver's seat with an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound. Eau Claire Detectives later responded to Winona to assist and collect additional evidence. Further investigation is ongoing.

We extend our deepest condolences to the family, friends, and all those affected by this senseless act.

The Eau Claire Police Department is grateful for the assistance from the following agencies: Wisconsin State Patrol, Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office, Buffalo County Sheriff's Office, Wisconsin State Crime Lab, Eau Claire County District Attorney's Office, Eau Claire County Medical Examiner, Ramsey County Medical Center, Minnesota BCA, Rochester Police Department, Olmsted County Sheriff's, Winona Police Department, Winona County Sheriff's Office, Minnesota State Patrol, St. Charles Police Department, St. Charles Ambulance Service, and Southern Minnesota Regional Medical Examiner's Office.

We thank the public for your assistance, patience, and trust as our Officers worked tirelessly to capture this suspect. The Eau Claire Police Department is committed to ensuring the safety of our community. We thank you for your support.

Media inquiries should be directed to:

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