



Winnebago County Sheriff's Department



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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Rockford Man Charged with First Degree Murder

On Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at approximately 12:45p.m., Winnebago County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a welfare check in the 200 block of South Memorial Avenue. Upon deputies' arrival, a deceased female was located inside the residence. The female has been identified as 64 year-old, Emily Sanders of Rockford. Winnebago County Coroner's Office performed an autopsy today which revealed Ms. Sanders died as a result of multiple stab wounds.

Winnebago County Sheriff's Office Detectives conducted a follow-up investigation through evidence and witness statements and identified the suspect as 71-year old Preston King. King and the victim had been in a long term domestic relationship. With the assistance of Jackson County Sheriff's Office King was located and taken into custody in Southern Illinois.

The Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office reviewed the facts of the case and authorized the following charges:

Preston King (71 years of old) of Rockford, IL

- First Degree Murder

The charges against Preston King are merely accusations and he is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

"This senseless act of violence has shaken our community, and our hearts ache for the family and friends of the victim. Domestic violence has no place in our community, and the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office remains steadfast in our commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of all residents. We will continue to work closely with our law enforcement partners to pursue justice and provide support to those affected by this tragedy." Said Sheriff Caruana.

If you have been or are currently in an abusive or violent domestic situation, know that help is available. You can call 911 anytime or call these local support services:

Winnebago County Domestic Violence Assistance Center
400 West State Street, Rockford
815-516-2440

Rockford Family Peace Center
315 N. Main Street, Rockford
779-348-7600

Remedies
215 Easton Parkway Rockford
24 hr. hotline 815-962-6102

Winnebago County Sheriff's Office Detectives are actively conducting a follow up investigation. Please follow the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office on social media for any further updates.

Please follow us on Social Media, Facebook (Sheriff Winnebago County), Instagram (winnsheeriff), Twitter (@winnsheeriff) or on our website: www.winnebagosheriff.com

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