

DEKALB POLICE DEPARTMENT

David Byrd, Chief of Police



PRESS RELEASE



For Immediate Release

Media Contact – David Byrd

Issued: January 9, 2025

To Provide Info Call 815-748-8400

To Report a Crime/Request Emergency Police Response Call 9-1-1

Homicide Investigation

On the morning of January 7, 2025, the DeKalb Police Department responded to 820 West Hillcrest Drive, DeKalb, Illinois for a report of an unresponsive female. Officers were greeted at the apartment door by Devonne Montgomery. Officers located the victim Jasmine Dejournette on the floor of the first level of the apartment, unconscious and not breathing. Jasmine appeared to have significant facial injuries. DeKalb Police Department Officers and the DeKalb Fire Department rendered aid, but ultimately Jasmine succumbed to her injuries, and was pronounced deceased.

The DeKalb Police Department Investigative Division conducted a thorough investigation and identified sufficient evidence and facts, to support probable cause to arrest Devonne L. Montgomery for the death of Jasmine Dejournette.

On January 8, 2025, the DeKalb Police Department arrested and charged Devonne L. Montgomery with the following criminal offenses:

Charges:

- First Degree Murder (2 counts)
- Aggravated Domestic Battery
- Unlawful Possession of Weapon by a Felon

Suspect: Devonne L. Montgomery, M/B, Age 30 of 820 W. Hillcrest Drive in DeKalb.

Victim: Jasmine Dejournette, F/B, Age 31 of 820 W. Hillcrest Drive in DeKalb.

Devonne Montgomery was previously convicted of the following felony offenses: Aggravated Battery/Discharge Firearm in Kane County, Illinois (case number 15CF1679) and Aggravated Unlawful Use Weapon/Vehicle in Kane County, Illinois (case number 13CF2025).

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While the victim in this case had no way to know about the impending attack against her, domestic violence appears in many forms and sometimes people feel there is little they can do to improve their situation. Everyone has the right to feel safe in their own home.

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence or has reason to fear for their safety, it's important to seek help. Here are some potential resources that are available free of charge:

1. National Domestic Violence Hotline: Call 1-800-799-7233 or text "START" to 88788 for confidential support and resources 24/7.
2. Local Shelters: Many communities have shelters that provide safe spaces and support services. You can find a local shelter by searching online or contacting local authorities.
3. Counseling Services: Many organizations offer counseling and support for survivors of domestic violence. Look for local mental health services or hotlines.
4. Legal Assistance: If you need legal help, local social and public service organizations can connect you with resources in your area.
5. Support Groups: Many communities offer support groups where survivors can share their experiences and find solidarity.

It's crucial to remember that you are not alone, and help is available. Many times, the first step is the most difficult, but also the most important.

If you or someone you know needs assistance, please reach out to local organizations or hotlines that specialize in helping those impacted by domestic violence. Your voice matters, and your journey towards peace and safety is worthwhile.

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****All persons are presumed innocent in a court of law until proven guilty****

If you witnessed this incident or have any information that can help with this investigation, please contact the DeKalb Police Department.