

HOOPESTON RADIO, INC.

WHPO 101 COUNTRY

221 E BANK ST.

MILFORD, IL 60953

PUBLIC FILE INFORMATION FOR 1ST QUARTER 2024

AS STATION MANAGER, I CAN CERTIFY THAT HOOPESTON RADIO, INC. WHPO 101 COUNTRY RUNS DAILY NEWSCASTS AT 6 A.M., 7A.M. 8A.M. & 12P.M. MONDAY-FRIDAY AND 7 A.M. ON SATURDAY AND AIRS DAILY PSAS FROM AD COUNCIL AROUND THE CLOCK. ATTACHED IS A LIST OF ISSUES FROM NEWSCASTS AND LIVE INTERVIEWS FOR DIFFERENT EVENTS AND ISSUES AROUND THE COMMUNITY.

I CAN ATTEST THAT NEWSCAST AND PSAS RUN DAILY AND ISSUES ARE COVERED MONTHLY.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bakken', written in a cursive style.

JAMIE LEE BAKKEN, GENERAL MANAGER

HOOPESTON RADIO, INC. WHPO 101 COUNTRY

Danville Man Convicted by Jury in Triple Homicide

On Friday, January 12, 2024, a Vermilion County jury convicted 20-year-old Terrion Tinsley in the brutal and heinous murders of Nathaniel Gentry and Cordell Reed. Tinsley will face a sentence of 40 years to Natural Life in prison at a future sentencing hearing. Tinsley will remain in custody without bond pending the sentencing hearing. State's Attorney Jacqueline Lacy, who prosecuted this case along with two of her assistants, said the evening of January 22, 2020 was a complete nightmare for three men and their families. "These victims were at home playing cards with each other, having a good time. They were friends who grew up in Danville, who were simply spending time together." On January 23, 2020, Danville Police responded to 440 Elm Street after a 911 call by a family member who found victims, Nathaniel Gentry, Anthony Jones and Cordell Reed, Sr., all deceased inside Mr. Reed's home. First responders found the three victims stabbed and brutally beaten. Two of the suspects, including Tinsley were juveniles at the time of the incident. One defendant is still awaiting trial. The third defendant plead guilty to robbery and agreed to cooperate as a state's witness and testify at court to assist the prosecution in securing the conviction for Tinsley. Testimony at trial indicated that the three defendants were invited into the home on Elm Street by the owner of the home, Cordell Reed, Sr. Once invited in, they planned to steal some weed in the victims' possession. Tinsley and his co-defendants entered the home wearing latex gloves under knit gloves. In the early stages of the investigation, a detective with the Danville Police Department was alerted by a citizen who located three pairs of latex gloves inside of knit gloves that appeared to have been discarded in storm drains less than two blocks from the crime scene. The gloves, along with multiple pieces of seized evidence, were sent to the Illinois State Police (ISP) Crime Lab. ISP forensic scientist Jennifer Aper testified that DNA from Tinsley was found inside one of the latex gloves. Evidence presented by Forensic Pathologist, Dr. Scott Denton, showed that all three victims died as a result of multiple stab wounds and multiple injuries of blunt force trauma. Lacy expressed her appreciation to the jury for their service. "The jury's verdict of guilty against Terrion Tinsley sends a strong message that the people of Vermilion County are tired of the senseless violence. The jury spoke for the victims today." She added, "Without the cooperation of these brave witnesses, the Danville Police Department and the Illinois State Police, this prosecution would not have been possible." The third defendant is scheduled for trial in May, 2024.

Armed Felon Gets 11 Year Sentence

On January 3, 2024, Jim Smith, (DOB: 2/21/1985) formerly of Danville, IL, plead guilty to the offenses of Unlawful Possession of Weapon by Felon, a class 3 felony, and Criminal Damage to Property, a class 4 felony. Smith was sentenced to a total of 11 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections for the two offenses and will serve a term of six months of mandatory supervised release following his incarceration. The Honorable Derek Girton heard evidence that on March 6, 2022, Jim Smith and another individual were outside an apartment building on Garden Drive in Danville. As the victim walked up to the apartment building where he resides, Smith asked to borrow ten dollars. The victim refused and then went inside to his own apartment. Later, the victim was inside his apartment when he heard a knock at the door. Expecting it to be his girlfriend, he answered, but on the other side of the door was Smith. An altercation ensued in the hallway of the apartment building between Smith and the victim. Smith was then handed a gun by an individual in a nearby apartment. Smith then chased the victim to the victim's apartment and shot the victim through the door of his apartment. The incident was captured on security cameras. State's Attorney Jacqueline Lacy expressed her gratitude to the Danville Police Department for their determination in removing firearms from the hands of felons. "My office will continue to work with law enforcement to send a message to violent offenders that criminal activity will not be tolerated."

Danville Woman Convicted of Second Degree

Murder

On January 24, 2024, Lou Ann Saint Onge, formerly of Danville, Illinois, pleaded guilty to a charge of Second Degree Murder, and was sentenced to 14 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. Second Degree Murder is punishable by a term of probation, or 4 to 20 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. Her prison term will be followed by one year of mandatory supervised release. During the plea Circuit Judge Robert McIntire heard evidence establishing that on July 16, 2023, Ms. Saint Onge went to a bar with her longtime domestic partner, Michael Woestman, and after some time they got into an argument and left the bar. He left on foot and she in a car, and the argument continued. Eventually, after his final refusal to get into the car with her, "something snapped" in her mind and she intentionally drove into Mr. Woestman, striking and killing him. An eyewitness called in to the police what they had seen, and Ms. Saint Onge was eventually taken into custody. She made a full confession, which was corroborated by a number of independent witnesses. Vermilion County State's Attorney Jacqueline Lacy thanks the Danville Police Department for their thorough investigation, and the many civilian witnesses for their cooperation. "The integrity of the

cases prosecuted by my office is largely dependent on witnesses who are willing to come forward and tell the truth.”

Shooter from December in Iroquois county, brought to justice.

On Thursday, February 8, 2024, the Iroquois County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with the U.S. Marshals Service Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force and the Jasper County, Indiana, Sheriff's Office, arrested John E. Brown, age 52, of rural Beaverville, IL, at a residence in DeMotte, IN, following an investigation in to a shooting that occurred on Friday, December 29, 2023, at a residence in northeastern Iroquois County near the Indiana State Line. Mr. Brown was wanted on an Iroquois County warrant charging him with Aggravated Battery, Unlawful Possession of Weapon by Felon and Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm following an investigation in to the late night shooting that sent one person to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries. The victim was transported to Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee, IL, following the shooting, where they were treated for a gunshot wound to the lower extremity. Mr. Brown was taken in to custody without incident by U.S. Marshals and transported to the Jasper County Jail, where he remains awaiting extradition to Illinois.

6 ½ Years in Prison for Repeat Convicted Felon with Firearm

On February 8, 2024, Orlando Perkins (DOB 11/9/1988) formerly of Danville, Illinois, plead guilty to Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by a Felon, a class 2 felony, and was sentenced to six years and six months in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The term of imprisonment will be followed by 1 year mandatory supervised release. Circuit Judge Robert McIntire heard evidence from the People that on September 30, 2022, Orlando Perkins was stopped by an officer with the Danville Police Department for driving a vehicle with expired registration. During the traffic stop Perkins informed the officer that there was a firearm in the back seat of the vehicle. Perkins was removed from the vehicle and a loaded 380 Taurus handgun was located on the floor board behind the driver's seat. State's Attorney Jacqueline Lacy stated, "Thank you to the Danville Police Department for their work in this case. It is illegal in the State of Illinois for a convicted felon to possess a firearm, and my office will continue to work with police agencies to uphold the law."

Danville Man Sentenced to 5 Years in Prison for Possessing a Firearm as a Felon

On February 8, 2024, Rail Hibbler (DOB 7/31/1982), formerly of Danville, Illinois, plead guilty to Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by a Felon, a class 2 felony. Hibbler was sentenced by Circuit Judge Robert McIntire to 5 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections, followed by 1 year mandatory supervised release. Evidence was presented to Judge McIntire that on August 19, 2023, Rail Hibbler was being investigated for a domestic battery that had occurred at Hibbler's residence. When Danville Police went to the residence, Hibbler was getting into a vehicle. Officers approached to question Hibbler and he was found to have a loaded firearm on his person. State's Attorney Jacqueline Lacy thanked the Danville Police Department for their work in this case. She added, "My office will continue to work to remove firearms from the hands of felons to end violent crime in Vermilion County."

Drug Dealer Sentenced to 9 years in Vermilion County

On February 20, 2024, Avery Brandon (DOB 5/23/1973), formerly of Danville, Illinois, pleaded guilty to Unlawful Possession With Intent to Deliver Controlled Substance, a class 1 felony. He was sentenced to 9 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections, to be followed by 1 year mandatory supervised release. Circuit Judge Robert McIntire heard evidence that on October 28, 2022, agents with the Vermilion County Metropolitan Enforcement Group executed a search warrant of the residence of Avery Brandon. During the search, agents located many grams of cocaine, plus drug scales. During an interview, Brandon admitted he had cocaine throughout the house and that he had sold cocaine on October 28, 2022. Jacqueline Lacy thanked the Vermilion County Metropolitan Group for their work in this case and for their continued efforts to keep illegal drugs off our streets. She further stated, "My office will seek significant prison sentences for drug dealers."

Felon with a Gun Gets 6 Years in Vermilion

County

On February 20, 2024, Emmit Brown (DOB 9/7/1979), formerly of Danville, Illinois, pleaded guilty to Unlawful possession of a Weapon by a Felon, a class 2 felony. He was sentenced to 6 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections, to be followed by 1 year mandatory supervised release. Circuit Judge Robert McIntire heard evidence that on January 11, 2024, Emmit Brown was stopped by an officer with the Danville Police Department for a traffic violation. Upon further investigation it was discovered that Brown was on mandatory supervised release for a prior felony conviction. Officers subsequently searched the vehicle and found a loaded Hi-Point handgun under the driver's seat. State's Attorney Jacqueline Lacy thanked the Danville Police Department. She added, "My office will continue to work with police to make our community safer by getting guns out of the hands of felons."

Former public health administrator before judge March 21 on theft and official misconduct charges

A former public health administrator was before a judge March 21 after being charged by the Illinois Attorney General's Office on theft and official misconduct charges.

Dee Ann Schippert, 57, Watseka, was charged by Attorney General Kwame Raoul "with allegedly submitting fraudulent time sheets to the Iroquois County Public Health Board claiming to have worked hours she did not actually work, valued in excess of \$100,000," reads a press release from Raoul's office.

Schippert was arrested by Illinois State Police Special Investigations Unit March 20 in Champaign.

Schippert is charged with two counts of theft of government property, which are Class X felonies punishable by up to 30 years in prison, six Class 1 felonies of theft of government property, which are punishable up to five years in prison, and 17 Class 3 felony counts of official misconduct, which are punishable by up to five years in prison. "Sentences are ultimately determined by the court and can run concurrently," reads the statement from Raoul.

Judge William Dickenson presided over court proceedings March 21. Iroquois County judges Michael Sabol and Kara Bartucci have recused themselves from the case.

According to [judici.com](https://www.judici.com) information, Schippert appeared at the Zoom video hearing March 21 in the custody of the sheriff's department. Public Defender Lance Cagle was also present as was Assistant Attorney General Mara Somlo. It was noted that Schippert may hire private counsel instead of a public defender. Part of the March 21 proceedings indicate that she is not to leave the State of Illinois and refrain from going to areas of the health department and Iroquois County departments that are not open to the public. She is to report to pre-trial services within 24 hours. She was read her appeal rights.

She will next go before a judge at 9:30 a.m. April 4 when the next status hearing is set. That hearing is set to be in a Kankakee courtroom.

In the press release, Raoul says that Schippert began her time as Iroquois County Public Health Department administrator in 2015, and had worked at the Ford-Iroquois Public Health Department for more than 20 years before that.

"While in the administrator role, Raoul's office alleges from May 2020 to July 2022, Schippert knowingly deceived the government by misrepresenting to Iroquois County's Board of Health how much work and what type of work she did," reads the release.

"This included submitting multiple fraudulent time sheets claiming regular and overtime work hours she did not actually work. Raoul alleges that, as a result, Schippert was paid more than \$100,000 she should not have received."

"Public officials who abuse their position for their own financial gain must be held accountable," Raoul said in the release. "I would like to thank the Illinois State Police for their assistance in investigating this case. My office will continue to collaborate with law enforcement agencies to investigate and

hold accountable government employees who take advantage of the trust their communities have placed in them."

"No one is above the law and when we learn of possible public corruption, the Illinois State Police Special Investigations Unit will be there to hold offenders accountable on behalf of the public," said ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly.

Child Predator Sentenced to 12 Years in Prison

On March 5, 2024, Troy Barnes (DOB 9/10/1990), formerly of Danville, Illinois, pleaded guilty to Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault of a Child, a class X felony, for 6 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. Barnes also pleaded guilty to Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault of a Family Member, a class 1 felony, for an additional 6 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. Each count for which the defendant pled guilty is to be served consecutively and he is to serve 85% of the sentence. Judge Derek Girton heard evidence from the State that the 2019 incident was reported to the Danville Police Department after a minor child came forward. Further investigation revealed prior incidents with a second minor victim who was also a family member. After his release from prison, Barnes will serve a term of mandatory supervised release from 3 years to natural life, and will be required to register as a sex offender for life. State's Attorney

Jacqueline Lacy thanked the Danville Police Department for their dedicated efforts in this matter. Lacy said, "I must thank the victims for their courage in coming forward to law enforcement. The victims' support of each other during this traumatic time was crucial." Lacy added, "It is inconceivable that children must suffer such forms of abuse. It is important that our children know if someone hurts them it is safe to speak out."

Gun-Toting Crack Dealer Sentenced to Prison

On March 8, 2024, Terrion Liggins (DOB 12/30/1987), formerly of Danville, Illinois, pleaded guilty to Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver, a Class 1 felony, for 10 years Illinois Department of Corrections and to Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by a Felon, a Class 2 felony, for 8 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. Sentences are to run concurrently and will be followed by 1 year mandatory supervised release. Judge Derek Girton heard evidence that on December 6, 2022, agents with the Vermilion County Metropolitan Enforcement Group executed a search warrant on the home of Terrion Liggins and located 28 grams of crack cocaine. Agents also located firearm ammunition, which Liggins is not legally allowed to possess due to prior felony convictions. Liggins admitted to agents that he sold crack cocaine to support his lifestyle. State's Attorney Jacqueline Lacy expressed her gratitude to the agents of the Vermilion County Metropolitan Enforcement Group for their efforts to remove illegal drugs from the streets of Vermilion County.