

HOOPESTON RADIO, INC.

WHPO 101 COUNTRY

221 E BANK ST.

MILFORD, IL 60953

PUBLIC FILE INFORMATION FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER 2023

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 blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Bakken', with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

JAMIE LEE BAKKEN, GENERAL MANAGER

HOOPESTON RADIO, INC. WHPO 101 COUNTRY

## ILLINOIS STATE POLICE INVESTIGATING OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING

The Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Internal Investigation is investigating an officer involved shooting in Champaign County.

On July 3, 2023 at 7:47 p.m., Troopers assisted Danville Police Department officers, Vermilion County Sheriff's deputies, and Champaign County Sheriff's deputies in a pursuit throughout Vermilion and Champaign counties of a vehicle believed to be involved in a shooting in Clinton, Iowa. After briefly losing sight of the vehicle, it was located again in the area of 2200 County Road 2250 East. In a search of the area, an Illinois Department of Natural Resource officer located the suspect in a detached garage. The suspect engaged in a standoff and ISP Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) and Crisis Negotiation Team members were called to the location. The suspect refused to comply and an ISP trooper discharged their firearm. The suspect was struck and taken to a nearby hospital where they were later pronounced deceased. No officers were struck or injured during the incident.

In accordance with the Police and Community Relations Improvement Act (50 ILCS 727) and the Illinois State Police Law (20 ILCS 2605), Special Agents of the Illinois State Police Division of Internal Investigation are investigating these events.

This investigation is open and ongoing. ISP is currently processing evidence and conducting interviews. Upon completion of the investigation, all evidence and facts will be submitted for review to the Champaign County State's Attorney's Office. No additional information is available at this time.

## SA Lacy not happy with Safe-T Act Cash Bail Decision

In September, 2022, I filed a motion for declaratory judgement and injunctive relief in my official capacity as Vermilion County State's Attorney and

on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois. The motion requested the Court to find that Public Act 102-1104 violates Article I, section 8.1(a)(9); Article I, section 9; Article II, section 1; and Article IV, section 8(d) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970 and declare the law null and void. Similar motions that were filed by numerous other State's Attorneys throughout Illinois were consolidated into Kankakee County, Illinois.

On December 28, 2022, Circuit Judge Thomas Cunningham, Chief Judge of the 21st Judicial Circuit issued his ruling in the case of *Rowe, et al. v. Pritzker, et al.* Judge Cunningham ruled in favor of the Plaintiffs and held that the Pre-Trial Fairness Act, specifically the bail reform and pre-trial release provisions, is unconstitutional. The other provisions of the Safe-T Act were upheld.

The Plaintiffs in this lawsuit were collectively represented by a litigation team consisting of the State's Attorney and their Assistant State's Attorneys from Kankakee, Kendall, McHenry, Sangamon, Will, and Vermilion Counties. The defendants (Governor JB Pritzker, Attorney General Kwame Raoul, Senate President Donald Harmon, and Speaker of the House Christopher Welch) appealed to the Illinois Supreme Court.

On July 18, 2023, the Illinois Supreme Court issued its opinion overturning the Circuit Court and found the pre-trial fairness act constitutional. To say I am disappointed is an understatement. I firmly believe that this decision will be a detriment to the criminal justice system and the People of Vermilion County. First, the act will limit the ability for Judges to protect the public and victims as well as to ensure the offender will appear in court. Second, the legislature has now been given the power to change the Illinois Constitution without putting forth a referendum to the voters of the State of Illinois. Third, requiring an unwarranted additional presumption of no bail clearly contradicts previously established and superior law, places crime victims at a greater risk to be re-victimized, and unnecessarily subjects witnesses to threats and intimidation.

As the Chief Legal Officer in Vermilion County, I pledge to work with our law enforcement partners and to continue to do what is right for Vermilion County.

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According to Iroquois County Sheriff's Police reports, Tyler Fanning, 24, was killed in the accident at 1:11 a.m. Aug. 18 on 1050 N near 2540 E in rural Milford.

According to police reports, Fanning was driving a 2013 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 and was eastbound on 1050 N near 2540 E when for unknown reasons the vehicle left the roadway.

The vehicle entered the south ditch and traveled for approximately 242 feet before striking a field entrance. Fanning's vehicle became airborne and traveled approximately 41 feet before striking the ditch a second time causing the vehicle to roll. The vehicle came to rest on its side near a culvert. Fanning was extricated from the vehicle by Milford Fire and Milford EMS. Riverside EMS arrived on scene and pronounced Fanning deceased.

The accident remains under investigation by Iroquois County Sheriff's Police.

ILLINOIS STATE POLICE ANNOUNCE ARREST IN IROQUOIS COUNTY HOMICIDE

An Illinois State Police (ISP) Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) death investigation resulted in the arrest of 44-year-old Scott E. Peterson from Kankakee for First Degree Murder (Class M Felony).

On August 17, 2023, Watseka Police Department (WPD) requested ISP DCI Zone 5 to investigate a double homicide that occurred in the 300 block of West North Street. WPD responded to the area for a shot's fired call and located two deceased victims in a residence. The victims are identified as 42-year-old Amanda Peterson and 38-year-old Joseph Robinson. A 21-year-old male was also located with gunshot wounds and was transported to an area hospital for treatment. WPD took Peterson into custody immediately following the incident.

Peterson is being held in the Iroquois County Jail where he will be charged with First Degree Murder (2 counts each victim) and bond will be set.

No further information will be released at this time.

### Remains found in Southern Vermilion county lands a Danville man 30 years behind bars

On August 25, 2023, Dillon Steele, formerly of Danville, Illinois, was sentenced to thirty (30) years in the Illinois Department of Corrections after pleading guilty to the offense of First Degree Murder. Steele will serve 100% of his sentence and will also be required to complete a term of 3 years mandatory supervised release following his incarceration. Circuit Judge Charles Hall heard evidence that in April of 2020, property owners in Indianola, Illinois called the Vermilion County Sheriff's Department after locating human remains. The remains, though only parts of the entire body, were collected as evidence by law enforcement. Using DNA from the victim's father and son, the remains were identified by the Illinois State Police Crime Lab as belonging to victim Anthony Rauch. The case was investigated over many months by the Vermilion County Sheriff's Department, in cooperation with the State's Attorney's Office. Testimony was presented by State's Attorney Jacqueline Lacy to the Grand Jury by Melinda Warfel, the ex-wife of victim Anthony Rauch. Warfel stated that she had an ongoing relationship with both victim Anthony Rauch and Dillon Steele. Warfel stated that Mr. Rauch had been living in her home in Paris, Illinois on February 15, 2020 and that prior to that date she and Dillon Steele had discussed murdering Mr. Rauch and disposing of his body. Warfel stated that on February 15, 2020 Dillon Steele went into her home, stabbed Mr. Rauch once before he died, and then transported his body to a remote area of Indianola where he ultimately burned and disposed of the victim's body, burying some of the body parts at the site in Indianola. During the sentencing hearing, State's Attorney Jacqueline Lacy presented evidence which included a Victim Impact Statement by Anthony Rauch's mother, Betty Johnson. Ms. Johnson stated to Steele, "You killing him in the horrific way you did took away so much more than just his life, you took something away from each person who loved and cared about him." Lacy thanked the Vermilion County Sheriff's Department for their tireless investigation in this case.

