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ROSEMONT PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT

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9/15/2017

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Rosemont, IL
09/15/2017 at 6:35 PM

The Rosemont Public Safety Department would like to update the media and public as to the progress and facts surrounding the death investigation into Kenneka Jenkins.

As of the date and time of this press release, our detectives have interviewed a total of twenty-five (25) individuals. Sixteen (16) of those individuals have been determined to be inside the hotel room during the party. Today alone, eight (8) individuals have been interviewed. It is believed a minimum of 31 individuals were inside the hotel room that night and we are still trying to identify and locate 15 individuals. We are aggressively working with the Chicago Police Department and others to locate any individuals who were inside the hotel room that evening. Additionally, we are still following-up on the over 500 tips and leads coming in.

The scene of the incident was processed by evidence technicians to include high precision 3D measurement imaging and crime scene analysis. Our detectives also have created video recordings of the scene to include the believed path Kenneka Jenkins took from the hotel room to the freezer, supported by surveillance video.

Two (2) video recordings from social media have been reviewed and sent to a private lab to be enhanced for further examination. It is anticipated we will have those videos analyzed in approximately two (2) weeks. Additionally, our detectives have sent a preservation of evidence order to Facebook along with issuing out two (2) search warrants for Facebook accounts in order to obtain information related to those accounts.

The Rosemont Public Safety Department has been cooperating with the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office and have released to them any information requested, to include video surveillance footage from the hotel. The Medical Examiner's Officer has stated they will release their findings once their investigation is complete.

Through our investigation, we have evidence that indicates that the hotel room occupied during this party was checked-into on September 7, 2017 by 1 black female and 1 black male using a fraudulent credit card obtained through identity theft. The case into this identity theft is ongoing.

Page 1 of 2

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RPS-030



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On September 9th, 2017 at approximately 12:46 PM, the Rosemont Public Safety Department took a Missing Persons Report for Kenneka Jenkins. Initial attempts to locate Kenneka Jenkins were unsuccessful. Upon further analysis of the hotel surveillance footage, Rosemont Officers were able to identify Kenneka Jenkins on the video helping to narrow down the search area. At that time, a further search of the hotel was conducted. While searching the hotel in the early morning of September 10th, a hotel employee discovered the body of Kenneka Jenkins and immediately notified Rosemont Public Safety Officers who were also on scene. The body of Kenneka Jenkins was discovered at approximately 12:25 AM. After evidence technicians processed the scene, at the request of Tereasa Martin, mother of Kenneka Jenkins, she and her daughter were escorted to the scene by detectives. They were able to see the area of the kitchen in which Kenneka was observed on surveillance video as well as the area in which the body was discovered. The body of Kenneka Jenkins was identified by Tereasa Martin and her daughter prior to being transported to the Medical Examiner. Surveillance video from the Crowne Plaza Hotel has been made available through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

Each day since the start of this investigation, the Rosemont Public Safety Department has been in contact with Tereasa Martin (or by requests, her attorney). We would like to reiterate that Tereasa Martin is welcome to speak with detectives regarding any questions she may have about the investigation or review any surveillance footage from the hotel.

Again, this is still an ongoing death investigation we are actively investigating. As the investigation into the death of Kenneka Jenkins continues, the Rosemont Public Safety Department will continue to keep the media and public updated.

Page 2 of 2