

# MEDIA RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **MACOMB, IL** – Update to 309 N. Normal incident, Officers' Names

After conferring with the officers, and their families, I can announce the names of the injured officers.

Detective Nick Severs, an 8-year veteran of Macomb Police, suffered a gunshot wound to his hip. He has been treated and released. Severs is a decorated officer, former K-9 handler to Mac, and Macomb's 2019 Officer of the Year. Severs has an excellent work ethic and displays great dedication to his work at MPD.

Sgt. JP McLaughlin was struck by gunfire in the upper left leg. He was treated and released. Sgt. McLaughlin, a 17-year veteran officer and former detective, was recently promoted to Sergeant in Patrol. He was a former School Resource Officer for MHS and has several accolades under his belt.

Below is an update on the 309 N. Normal incident -

On September 4, 2024 at approximately 6:59pm, Detectives with the Macomb Police Department arrived at 309 North Normal Street in Macomb where an alleged Criminal Sexual Assault occurred earlier in the day to attempt to interview Shaiking Mathis, who is the primary suspect in that investigation. Detectives knocked on doors at the residence to contact Mathis, but no one came to either door. No one was seen, or heard from, inside.

Detectives had previously obtained a search warrant for the residence and called for more officers to execute the search warrant due to no one answering the door. A perimeter was set around the residence. A team of officers began knocking and announcing their presence and that they had a search warrant for the residence. No one could be seen or heard from inside the residence by the officers while announcements were being made. Several announcements were made on each of the doors to the home.

At approximately 7:05pm, the team of officers breached the rear door and were instantly met with gunfire from inside the residence. Detective Severs and Sergeant McLaughlin were hit by the suspect's gunfire. Officers returned fire, retreated from the residence, and began administering medical aid to the two wounded officers. Officers were transported to McDonough District Hospital.

A larger perimeter was established utilizing resources from McDonough County Sheriff's Office, Illinois State Police, Knox County Sheriff's Office, Galesburg Police Department, Fulton County Sheriff's Office, Hancock County Sheriff's Office, and the FBI.

State's Attorney Matt Kwacala with the McDonough County State's Attorney's Office and Susan Maxwell, the State's Attorney in Hancock County, assisted with this investigation.

The ISP will investigate suspect's alleged shooting at police officers and associated crimes. Macomb Police will continue to investigate the alleged criminal sexual assault.

Mathis had a detention hearing at 1:30 PM via Zoom Court. He was detained until trial.

A separate media release will be issued, later, thanking area police departments, businesses, personnel, and community members.

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