



# JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

## Michael C. Carr, State's Attorney

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **LAUREN L. STINDE, CARBONDALE, CHARGED WITH FIRST DEGREE MURDER & CONCEALMENT OF HOMICIDAL DEATH**

Lauren L. Stinde, 23, of Carbondale, Illinois, was charged today with two counts of First Degree Murder and one count of Conceal Homicidal Death, Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney announced today. The Information filed in Jackson County Circuit Court alleges that on August 29, 2016, Stinde, while acting together and in concert with another, and being legally accountable for the actions of each other, knowingly performed acts which caused the death of another. Stinde is also charged with Concealment of Homicidal Death, in that while acting in concert with another and being legally accountable for the actions of another, knowingly concealed the death of another, by placing the victim's body into a trash can and concealed the trash can in a wooded area for the purpose of preventing or delaying the discovery of her death. The identity of the deceased person is being withheld until forensic verification can be completed.

*An Information is merely a charge and not evidence. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.*

The burned remains of a human were found in a wooded area off of East Main Street, near Piles Fork Creek, in Carbondale on August 30, 2016. Stinde is currently in custody at the Jackson County Jail with bond at \$1,000,000.

The investigation is being pursued by the Carbondale Police Department and the Illinois State Police. Assistant State's Attorney Casey E.A. Bloodworth is handling the prosecution.

*A prosecutor has the responsibility of a minister of justice and not simply that of an advocate. This responsibility carries with it specific obligations to see that the defendant is accorded procedural justice and that guilt is decided upon the basis of sufficient evidence. Except for statements that are necessary to inform the public of*

*the nature and extent of the prosecutor's action and that serve a legitimate law enforcement purpose, by Supreme Court Rule, the State's Attorney is not allowed to make statements about pending cases or investigations which would pose a serious and imminent threat to the fairness of the proceeding. **Rule 3.8 Special Responsibilities of a Prosecutor.** For a list of certain subjects which have been determined to pose such a threat to the fairness of the proceedings and for a list of subjects which do not, please see **Rule 3.6 Trial Publicity.** For any press release involving a case which has not yet been tried, please note that: **a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of the jury.***