



# **JACKSON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

Michael C. Carr, Jackson County State's Attorney, announced today that Lauren L. Stinde, age 23, of Carbondale, Illinois, was indicted by a Grand Jury in Jackson County on Friday, November 4th, 2016, with two counts of First Degree Murder and one count of Concealing a Homicidal Death.

The Bill of Indictment alleges two alternative counts of First Degree Murder. In Count 1, the Grand Jury 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, killed Robin Stief without lawful justification, in that in performing the acts which caused the death of Robin Stief, and with the intent to kill or do great bodily harm to her, the defendant hit her in the head with a hammer and strangled and suffocated her. Count 2 alleges First Degree Murder in that the defendant, while acting together and in concert with another, and being legally accountable for the actions of each other, killed Robin Stief without lawful justification, in that in performing the acts which caused her death, the defendant hit Robin Stief in the head with a hammer and strangle and suffocated her, knowing such acts created a strong probability of death or great bodily harm, thereby causing the death. If convicted, the sentence for murder in Illinois is 20 – 60 years. This sentence is not probationable and the entire sentence must be served.

Count 3 charges Stinde with Concealment of a Homicidal Death, in that, while acting in concert with another, and being legally accountable for the actions of each other, she knowingly concealed the death of Robin Stief with knowledge that Robin Stief had died by homicidal means, by placing the victim's body into a trash can and concealing the trash can in a wooded area for the purpose of preventing or delaying the discovery of her death. Upon conviction, the sentence on this count is 2- 5 years and is probationable.

***An Indictment 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 and her bond is \$1,000,000. She is scheduled to appear in court for arraignment on November 17, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.

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.***