

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Onalaska Police Investigating Death

The search for La Crosse resident Neala Frye ended last evening with the discovery of her body in the area of 1st Avenue South near the railroad tracks. Ms. Frye had been identified as a missing person earlier.

Ms. Frye was last seen at the Spillway Pub at the 200 block Irvin Street in Onalaska. It is believed that she possibly left the Pub on foot sometime during the early morning hours of February 17. Early attempts to locate Ms. Frye were unsuccessful.

The Onalaska Police Department then requested the assistance of Tim Devine for the use of his bloodhound tracking dog. The dog led officers from the Onalaska Police Department and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) agents on a track. The track took officers through heavy vegetation and ultimately led back to the railroad tracks where the scent was lost. During the investigation it was also learned that Ms. Frye did not return home during the evening and failed to show up for her shift at Menards in La Crosse.

Later that evening the Onalaska Police Department was summoned to the area of 1st Avenue South near the railroad tracks. Friends of Ms. Frye who were looking for her had located items belonging to Ms. Frye. Onalaska Police Officers conducted a search of the area adjacent to this location and discovered Ms. Frye's body.

Cause of death is still under investigation. The Onalaska Police Department has requested the Wisconsin Department of Justice – Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) assist with this investigation.

If anyone has any information that they feel is pertinent to this investigation, please call 608-781-9550 and ask to speak with one of the investigators.