
POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASE 19-001

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Beloit Police Releases Information on Homicide Investigation

Feb. 11, 2019 - The City of Beloit Police Department is investigating a homicide that occurred around 12:20 p.m. Saturday in the 800 block of Vine Street. The victim, later identified as James M. Tomten, 28, of Janesville, was found deceased from a gunshot wound in a beige/tan Cadillac Escalade.

“We extend our condolences to the family of James Tomten,” said Capt. Thomas Stigler. “We are working diligently to investigate his death to bring the perpetrator to justice. We know there are a lot of questions about the homicide, and we will answer them the best that we can while still protecting the integrity of the investigation.”

The vehicle was sitting at the location for several hours when a concerned resident reported that a person was unconscious in the vehicle. Police and fire officials were dispatched at 2:38 p.m. Saturday. Upon arrival, the victim was found deceased in the vehicle. Information obtained during the investigation places the homicide at 12:20 p.m.

We are providing a photograph of the Escalade the victim was driving at the time of the homicide. If anyone saw this vehicle on Saturday, please call us at 608-364-6803. Even the smallest amount of information can be valuable in this investigation.

We believe the suspect and the victim were acquainted with each other, and that there is not an ongoing danger to the public.

We are currently looking to speak to an individual who we believe was with the victim at a business on the east side of Beloit just prior to the homicide. This individual is described as a male with lighter skin with a thin build approximately 5’10” to 6’2” tall and wearing a red hooded sweatshirt with white lettering on the front, blue jeans and red tennis shoes. We are sharing a video of this individual in hopes the community can assist us in obtaining his identity so we can interview him.

If anyone has information about the homicide or saw the vehicle prior to the homicide, please call us at 608-364-6803.

“We are encouraged by the community support as our department takes violent crimes very seriously,” said Stigler. “We are working diligently to solve this heinous crime.”

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