



## JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

McLean County Coroner's Office  
Bloomington Fire Department & Bloomington Police Department

For Immediate Release: January 8, 2026

### ***McLean County Coroner Releases Preliminary Findings in Fatal Motorcycle Crash***

Bloomington, IL - McLean County Coroner Dr. Kathleen Yoder is releasing the following information regarding the traffic crash involving a motorcycle and a sport utility vehicle at the intersection of East Oakland Avenue and Old Farm Road in Bloomington, Illinois, on January 7, 2026.

Pronounced deceased at 3:37 p.m. on January 7, 2026, in the Emergency Department at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center, was Matthew J. Moritz, age 40, of Bloomington, Illinois. Preliminary autopsy opinion indicates that Mr. Moritz died from multiple blunt force injuries due to a motorcycle and sport utility vehicle collision, as the driver and sole occupant of the motorcycle. Toxicology testing is pending.

"Our thoughts are with the family and friends of Mr. Moritz as they navigate this difficult loss," said Chief Jamal Simington. "I am grateful for our off-duty officer and the passerby who stopped to render aid and summon additional help. This incident serves as a solemn reminder that we all share a responsibility to always drive with caution and practice defensive driving habits to help ensure the safety of everyone on our roadways."

The incident remains under investigation by the Bloomington Police Department, the McLean County Accident Reconstruction Team, and the McLean County Coroner's Office. Anyone with information should contact the Bloomington Police Department at 309-820-8888.

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*Previous Release*

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### ***Fatal Motorcycle Crash Under Investigation in Bloomington***

Bloomington, IL - On Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at 3:12 p.m., Bloomington police officers responded to the intersection of East Oakland Avenue and Old Farm Road for a report of a traffic crash involving a motorcycle and a sport utility vehicle. The Bloomington Fire Department was also dispatched to the scene.

An off-duty Bloomington police officer and another passerby rendered aid to the injured motorcyclist until officers arrived on scene. Upon arrival, officers secured the crash scene and began their investigation while paramedics provided medical care. Due to the severity of the crash, the McLean County Accident Reconstruction Team responded to the scene.

The motorcyclist, a 40-year-old Bloomington man, was transported to a local hospital, where he was later pronounced deceased. An autopsy is pending. His identity is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The driver of the other vehicle did not sustain life-threatening injuries.

The incident remains under investigation by the Bloomington Police Department, the McLean County Accident Reconstruction Team, and the McLean County Coroner's Office. Anyone with information should contact the Bloomington Police Department at 309-820-8888.

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### Crime Tips

If you wish to submit a crime tip and remain anonymous, please contact the Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit (CIAU) at 309-434-2963 or email [CIAU@cityblm.org](mailto:CIAU@cityblm.org). You can also text the number 847411 by texting the word "BPDTIPS", then a space, followed by your tip information.

The tip line is not monitored 24/7. The CIAU office is staffed from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm, weekdays. If no one is available to answer your call, please leave the information on the voicemail or send it by e-mail.

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