



Pennsylvania State Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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State Police Troop B Major Case Team File Charges In Regard To University Student Homicide

Washington, PA – The Pennsylvania State Police Troop B Major Case Team has filed charges against the following individuals in connection with the homicide investigation involving Karoline Heintz in Washington County:

Royce Moser has been charged with Homicide, Tampering with Evidence, Abuse of a Corpse, Conspiracy to Commit Tampering with Evidence, Conspiracy to Commit Abuse of a Corpse, and Obstruction of Justice.

Rachel Moser has been charged with Hindering Apprehension of a Fugitive, Tampering with Evidence, Abuse of a Corpse, Conspiracy to Commit Tampering with Evidence, Conspiracy to Commit Abuse of a Corpse, and Obstruction of Justice.

Just after midnight on August 20, 2026, the California Police Department was notified to check the area for a Jeep Cherokee after Karoline Heintz failed to return to California University. Local officers located the vehicle near the California Library, with noticeable blood spatter inside and outside the vehicle. Upon checking the vehicle, officers found the body of Karoline Heintz in the rear hatch area.

The investigation revealed that Karoline Heintz met with her boyfriend, Royce Moser, outside his father's residence in North Strabane to talk. During the discussion, Royce Moser reportedly became angry and entered the residence. Moser then retrieved a large kitchen knife and stabbed Heintz in the chest. After she fell from the vehicle, Royce Moser placed her in the rear hatch area of the Jeep and drove to the residence of his mother, Rachel Moser, in Beallsville.

Once at the residence, Rachel Moser assisted by attempting to clean the Jeep Cherokee with cleaning sprays. She then provided Royce Moser with latex gloves and instructed him to follow her to the university.

They then left the Jeep Cherokee near the California's Library with Karoline Heintz still inside. Rachel Moser then drove Royce Moser back to her residence, where he cleaned his clothes and showered.

This investigation remains ongoing in conjunction with the Washington County District Attorney's Office.