FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Incident Location: Green St. and Mathews Ave. Urbana
Date/Time of Press Release: December 30, 2025 1:00 p.m.
Date/Time of Incident December 20, 2025 2:13 a.m.

Fatal Traffic Crash ***UPDATE***
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UPDATE: Arrest made as a result of fatal crash in Urbana

On Monday, December 29th, 2025, at approximately 6:08 p.m., Detectives from the Urbana Police Department arrested James L. Buford, a 31-year-old resident of Rantoul, IL for leaving the scene of an accident with a fatality, reckless homicide, wrong way on a one-way, unlawful possession of a weapon by a felon. This arrest is the result of a fatal traffic crash that occurred on December 20th, 2025, at the intersection of Green Street and Mathews Avenue in Urbana IL.

The Urbana Police Department also reminds the public that all individuals are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

Urbana Police ask that anyone with additional information please call 217-384-2320. Arrangements can be made for information to be shared privately. Anyone wishing to remain anonymous may also submit tips to Crime Stoppers by phone at 217-373-TIPS (217-373-8477); online at 373tips.com; or the "P3 Tips" mobile app.

Community members are reminded that information submitted to Crime Stoppers is completely anonymous. Calls are routed to a third-party national call center that receives your information, completes a tip information form, and then passes the information to the appropriate law enforcement agency. Caller ID tracking is not utilized by Crime Stoppers, and conversations are not recorded.

Crime Stoppers will pay cash rewards of $5,000 for tips that lead to an arrest in any homicide case, $2,500 for tips leading to an arrest in a felony crime involving a firearm, and up to $1,000 for tips leading to the arrest of the person(s) responsible for any other crime.

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Contact: Lt. Matthew McKinney, Urbana Police Department, Services Division
City of Urbana, 217-384-2320, matthew.mckinney@urbanail.gov