



Office of the Kane County State's Attorney  
**JAMIE L. MOSSER**  
STATE'S ATTORNEY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 11, 2024

**PINGREE GROVE MAN CHARGED WITH FIRST-DEGREE  
MURDER, AGGRAVATED KIDNAPPING**

*RE: Douglas Ottesen: Age 60 (d.o.b. 08-26-1963), of the 600 block of N. Falls Cir, Pingree Grove, Illinois. Case No. 2024CF000971.*

**St. Charles, Ill.** - Kane County State's Attorney Jamie L. Mosser, Crystal Lake Chief of Police James R. Black, and Kane County Sheriff Ron Hain announce that **Douglas Ottesen** is charged with the offenses of:

- First-Degree Murder, Class M Felony, (3 counts)
- Aggravated Kidnapping, Class X Felony, (2 counts)
- Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by a Felon, Class 2 Felony, (2 counts)
- Unlawful Possession of Ammunition by a Felon, Class 2 Felony, (2 counts)
- Aggravated Unlawful Restraint, Class 3 Felony, (1 count)
- Concealment of Homicidal Death, Class 3 Felony, (1 count)

State's Attorney Jamie Mosser alleges the following facts:

On April 4, 2024, the Crystal Lake Police Department initiated an investigation into a subject reported missing from a residence in Crystal Lake. An investigation indicated that the circumstances surrounding the incident may be criminal in nature. The thorough investigation led to the obtaining of two search warrants for locations in Kane County. The Crystal Lake Police Department reached out to the Kane County Investigations Division to work collaboratively on the execution of the search warrants.

On May 7, 2024, the Kane County Investigations Division responded to the 45W200 block of Illinois Route 72, located in Hampshire Township, in support of the Crystal Lake Police Department's search warrant for the property. Concurrently, the team aided in executing a search warrant at the 600 block of N. Falls Cir., located in Pingree Grove, Illinois. Human remains, identified as James Cromwell, age 57, a resident of Crystal Lake, were discovered by the Crystal Lake Police Department at the property listed within the 45W200 block of Illinois Route 72.

Kane County Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Investigators, alongside the Kane County Major Crimes Task Force Evidence Team, meticulously processed both scenes over several days. Additionally, the same Evidence Team provided additional support to the 600 block of N. Falls Cir. residence.

Following the discovery, the Kane County Coroner's Office conducted an autopsy. A comprehensive collection of evidence was conducted at both locations, including two vehicles. The preliminary cause of death, determined during the autopsy, is a gunshot wound. Kane County Coroner Rob Russell declared the preliminary manner of death as Homicide.

According to Illinois law, Ottesen is being detained in the Kane County jail while his case is pending.

The Crystal Lake Police Department would like to thank the Kane County Sheriff's Office, McHenry County State's Attorney's Office, Kane County State's Attorney's Office, Kane County Coroner's Office, and all others involved in this investigation.

**SA Mosser said:** "I am immensely grateful for the tireless dedication and meticulous effort demonstrated by our investigative team throughout this case. Their steadfast commitment to justice and relentless pursuit of truth embody the highest ideals of our profession. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to each member for their hard work, expertise, and unwavering dedication."

The charges against Ottesen are not proof of guilt. Ottesen is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial in which it is the state's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

\* \* \*