



LANCASTER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

City of Lancaster
Bureau of Police, 39 West Chestnut Street, Lancaster, Pa. 17603
www.lancasterpolice.com

Author: Capt. Kent Switzer

Contact Number: (717) 735-3300

Date: September 16, 2011

Missing Person-Update

INFO PREVIOUSLY RELEASED 2 SEPT 11:

Missing Person/Endangered – Possible Abduction

The Lancaster Bureau of Police is conducting a Missing Person Investigation and believe the person may be in danger. Based on the information the Criminal Investigations Division has at this time they are investigating the incident as a possible abduction.

Missing Person:

Symone Angel STEVENS - Resident of Lancaster City

Black female, 19 yrs. of age

5'2" / 120Lbs.

Short black hair, that is longer in the front, shorter in the back with zig/zags shaved into the sides, hazel eyes, has a pierced lower lip, pierced ears, star tattoos on her neck
Blue walking cast on her right foot.

Stevens was going to be meeting with unknown subjects in the area of N. Reservoir St. and E. Walnut St. at approximately 8PM Thursday evening. Stevens made contact with friends and/or family members after she met with these subjects and provided information that led friends and family to believe that she was in danger and they contacted the police.

Information has been developed that has led investigators to believe she is no longer in Lancaster County and she



LANCASTER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

City of Lancaster
Bureau of Police, 39 West Chestnut Street, Lancaster, Pa. 17603
www.lancasterpolice.com

Author: Capt. Kent Switzer

Contact Number: (717) 735-3300

Date: September 16, 2011

Missing Person-Update

could possibly be in Berks County.

Detectives have been working throughout the night and continue to follow up on leads they have received. If anyone has any information about Symone Stevens or her whereabouts please contact the city police at (717)735-3300 or Lancaster City/County Crime Stoppers 1-800-322-1913.

INFO PREVIOUSLY RELEASED 2 SEPT 11:

With the assistance of the Reading City Police, Symone STEVENS was located at approximately 4:00PM in the 300Blk Schuylkill Ave. Reading, PA.

Working from information received through the investigation Lancaster Detectives located an acquaintance in Reading, contacted that person and located STEVENS.

STEVENS was found physically unharmed. At the time of this press release Lancaster Detectives are on their way to Reading to speak with STEVENS.

STEVENS' family was notified that she is safe. The Lancaster Police would like to thank the PA State Police, Reading City Police, Wyomissing Police, and West Reading Police for their assistance both last night and today.

The investigation is ongoing and additional information will be released at an appropriate time.

*****UPDATED INFORMATION 16 SEPT. 11*****

With the approval of the Lancaster County District Attorney's Office Symone Angel Stevens was arrested and charged by Detectives of the Lancaster City Bureau of Police Special Investigations Unit with one count of False Alarms To Agencies Of Public Safety (M-2) and one count of False Reports To Law Enforcement Authorities (M-1) before District Judge Bruce Roth. Stevens was arrested without incident on 15 Sept. 2011 and was



LANCASTER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

City of Lancaster
Bureau of Police, 39 West Chestnut Street, Lancaster, Pa. 17603
www.lancasterpolice.com

Author: Capt. Kent Switzer

Contact Number: (717) 735-3300

Date: September 16, 2011

Missing Person-Update

arraigned and committed to Lancaster County Prison in lieu of \$7,500.00 bail.

Stevens' arrest and charges are a result of the investigation and intensive search by multiple police agencies into the reported kidnapping, abduction and assault of Stevens. At the conclusion of the investigation it was learned that the report Stevens made was false.

On the evening of September 1, 2011 the Lancaster City Police were called to an address in Lancaster City and took a report of a suspicious missing adult, identified as Stevens. Police learned that Stevens told family and friends that in early August 2011 she auditioned for an acting role through a talent agency and was subsequently chosen for an upcoming movie. Stevens told family and friends that her agent was going to pick her up at 8pm (1 Sept. 11) to take her to Las Vegas, Nevada. for the filming. Stevens told family and friends that she would be gone for about 6 months and that she was told to pack light.

At approximately 1945 hours, 1 Sept. Stevens left her home in the city and walked to the area of the Giant on N. Reservoir St. in Lancaster City to meet her agent. Stevens told family and friends that she would be back to introduce her agent and the other female that got a part in the film to them.

Shortly after Stevens left her address her family and friends began receiving alarming phone calls and text messages from Stevens. These text messages and phone conversations were sporadic yet continued over the next approximately 24 hours. These text messages and phone conversations that Stevens had with and sent to family and friends led them to contact the police.

Stevens told family members and friends that she was forced to change her clothes and that she felt uncomfortable. Stevens said that she was at a gas station and wanted to leave. Stevens said that she was not ok and that she was rushed in the car. Stevens said "they" sprayed something in her eyes. Stevens said they broke her phone and she was unable to call but was still able to send and receive text messages. Stevens said that she was in the woods, she could hear water, she couldn't see and was bleeding. Stevens indicated to family and friends to contact the police and that she was hurt. The family also received text messages from Stevens' phone indicating that the person(s) who had her were sorry and that it went too far and that Stevens had panicked and was no longer with them.



LANCASTER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

City of Lancaster
Bureau of Police, 39 West Chestnut Street, Lancaster, Pa. 17603
www.lancasterpolice.com

Author: Capt. Kent Switzer

Contact Number: (717) 735-3300

Date: September 16, 2011

Missing Person-Update

During the night and into the next day while Stevens' family and friends were receiving these messages investigators obtained information that Stevens was in Berks County and continued to search for Stevens and her assailants. Man power from Lancaster City Bureau of Police, Reading City Police Department, West Reading Police Department, Wyomissing Police Department and Troopers from the Pennsylvania State Police Aviation Unit assisted with the search throughout the nearly 24 hours Stevens was missing. The PSP Aviation Unit used their aircraft to assist with the search. Based on the information obtained to Stevens' whereabouts the above listed agencies searched wooded areas near a river in Reading, Pa. for hours.

Investigators continued the search until Stevens was located by Detectives from Reading City Police Department on the evening of 2 Sept. 2011. Stevens was safe and unharmed. Stevens was subsequently interviewed by Lancaster City Detectives and stated she was held against her will in an unknown garage and assaulted by two subjects.

Lancaster City Detectives followed up with leads that pointed to Stevens not being truthful. Stevens was re-interviewed and acknowledged she was not abducted, held against her will or assaulted. Stevens admitted to contacting a friend to pick her up in Lancaster and take her to her friend's home in Reading for the weekend.

The Lancaster City Police do not believe anyone else had knowledge of or was involved in Stevens' deception. Stevens' actions took away many emergency personnel from providing needed services to citizens of Lancaster City and surrounding areas. Specifically, some investigative manpower from the Lancaster City Bureau of Police needed to be used for this investigation, at a time when these personnel were investigating a very recent homicide. Anytime a person makes a false report to Law Enforcement it will be investigated and prosecuted to the fullest.

All persons accused of a crime are considered innocent until proven guilty in court.

(end of release)