



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:	CONTACT INFORMATION:
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INFORMATION RELEASE

ROCKFORD, Ill. – On Saturday, September 17, 2016 officers from the Rockford Police Department responded to 2815 Garfield Avenue to assist the Rockford Fire Department with a suspicious fire. It was originally believed that there were three victims who were deceased inside the residence however it was later learned that there was a total of four victims, a mother and three children. The victims were later identified as 27-year-old **Keandra Austin**, 9-year-old **V Angelo Totty**, 6-year-old **Keeryn Austin**, and 6-month-old **Aliya Beasley-Austin**.

Based on the preliminary autopsy results it appears the victims died as a result of foul play. As a result of these findings, this incident is now being treated as an active homicide investigation. Rockford Police Department detectives and Rockford Fire Department arson investigators are conducting a joint investigation into the circumstances surrounding the fire.

“Our detectives will continue to investigate this tragic event and implore anyone with information to call us. We will continue to work around the clock to apprehend the individuals responsible for this heinous crime,” said Rockford Police Chief Dan O’Shea.

No further information is available at this time. Additional information may be released in the future as appropriate.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact the Rockford Police Department Investigations Bureau at **779-500-6551** or Crime Stoppers **815-963-7867**.

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