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Thursday, August 13, 2026

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Athens, Tennessee

Update: Primary Suspect in County Road 435 Shooting Now in Custody



Kobe Maurice Jackson, previously sought in connection with a Friday afternoon shooting on County Road 435 near Englewood, is now in custody, according to McMinn County Sheriff Joe Guy.

Jackson, 25, had been identified as the primary suspect after the shooting left one person critically injured and transported to a Chattanooga hospital. Sheriff Guy said Jackson turned himself in Monday morning at a

relative's home in Etowah, where officers took him into custody without incident.

Jackson is now charged with attempted first-degree murder and aggravated robbery. Jail records show his bond has been revoked due to two unrelated prior charges of assault and disorderly conduct.

The victim remains in critical condition as of Monday, Sheriff Guy said.

Investigators had previously located a vehicle tied to the case, but the second unidentified male suspect mentioned in earlier reports has not been publicly addressed in this update. Sheriff Guy said the investigation remains active and ongoing. *Source: [Sheriff Joe Guy - Facebook](#)*

Motorcyclist Dies After Late-Night Crash on West Willson Road



A 73-year-old man died after the Harley-Davidson motorcycle he was riding ran off the roadway late Saturday night in Niota, according to local authorities.

Just before midnight, the man was traveling south on West Willson Road when his motorcycle left the road at Jones Curve. He was transported by AMR to the Sweetwater

Emergency Room in critical condition and was later pronounced deceased at the hospital.

Responding agencies included AMR, the McMinn County Sheriff's Office, Niota Fire Department, and Athens Fire Department. THP Trooper Scott Freeman is leading the investigation.

SOUNDS OF SUMMER FINAL CONCERT TIME CHANGE:
The **Confederate Railroad** concert being held this Saturday at the Lake Pavilion in the Athens Regional Park will begin at **7 p.m. Saturday, August 15.**
GATES WILL OPEN AT 4 P.M.



GoComics

NOTICE

The Good Faith Clinic will be open TODAY (Thursday, August 13) at 3 p.m. for refills and doctor visits. Test results will be provided beginning at 3:45 p.m.

The clinic meets at Christ Community Church, 18 S. Congress Parkway, Athens.

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Thursday, August 13, 2026

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2

Athens, Tennessee

Starr Regional Names Michelle Johnson as Chief Nursing Officer



Starr Regional Medical Center has announced that Michelle Johnson, MSN, RN, will serve as its new Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) effective August 10, 2026. She succeeds Deborah Vaughn, MSN, BSN, RN, who retired after two years in the role.

Johnson comes to Starr Regional from Jackson Purchase Medical Center in Mayfield, Kentucky, another Life-point facility, where she most recently served as CNO. She brings more than 15 years of progressive leadership experience overseeing nursing operations, quality, patient safety, staffing, regulatory compliance, and strategic initiatives across multiple healthcare organizations.

“We are thrilled to welcome Michelle to Starr Regional Medical Center,” said John McLain, CEO. “She brings clinical leadership experience, a strong commitment to quality and patient safety, and a passion for supporting caregivers. Michelle has a proven ability to build strong teams and drive clinical excellence, and she will help us advance our mission of making communities healthier.”

Board of Trustees chair Rev. Dr. Vant Hardaway praised Johnson’s leadership, noting her ability to strengthen teams and advance quality initiatives. “Her experience will be a tremendous asset to our hospital. We are excited to welcome her and look forward to the impact she will have on the communities we serve,” he said.

Johnson’s career includes leadership roles at CHRISTUS Southeast Texas St. Elizabeth in Beaumont, Texas; Woodland Heights Medical Center in Lufkin, Texas; and The Medical Center of Southeast Texas in Port Arthur, Texas. She holds both a Master of Science and Bachelor of Science in nursing and is a member of the American Nurses Association.

“I am honored to join Starr Regional Medical Center and become part of a team that is deeply committed to its communities,” Johnson said. “I look forward to working alongside our team to support caregivers, strengthen the patient experience, and improve the health of the communities we serve.”

Source: Brandi Armstrong, Starr Regional

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Thursday, August 13, 2026

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3

Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

August 11, 2026

Patrick Williams, 62, of Madisonville, charged with violation of implied consent, simple possession casual exchange, and drug paraphernalia.

Kobe Jackson, 25, of Etowah, charged with attempted first-degree murder, aggravated robbery, formerly assault, and disorderly conduct. Bond \$700,000.

Andrew Lovingood, 38, of Madisonville, charged with violation of probation for possession of fentanyl, and paraphernalia. Bond \$2,649.

Eric Smith, 24, of Knoxville, charged with DUI, open container, and simple possession casual exchange of schedule 6.

Jonathan Henson, 44, of Athens, Charged with manufacturing, sale, or delivery, and possession of schedule 6.

Bridget Robinson, 39, of Athens, charged with violation of probation from Loudon County.

Katrina Lamar, 39, of Decatur, charged with violation of an order of protection, Bond \$8,000.

Stacy Douglas, 35, of Dayton, charged with DUI.

Nathan Rhodes, 27, of Athens, charged with disorderly conduct, and public intoxication. Bond \$2,000.

**Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.
Information gathered using public sources.**

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Thursday, August 13, 2026

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4

Athens, Tennessee

24 New Teachers Join McMinn County Schools for the 2026–27 School Year



McMinn County Schools has welcomed 24 new educators to the district as the 2026–27 school year begins. The group took part in a two-day orientation ahead of the first day of classes, meeting colleagues from across the county's nine campuses and learning district procedures.

Director Melasawn Knight said the new hires include both first-year teachers and experienced educators. "Great schools start with great teachers, and this group is going to make a real difference for our kids," Knight said.

Students returned to classrooms on Wednesday, August 5, with the district extending a warm welcome to its newest staff members. *Photo provided by Camille Luttrell, MCS*

Obituaries

William Glenn Davidson, 81, of Niota, passed away on Saturday, August 8. What started as a boyhood paper route and a local lawn service eventually expanded to the far corners of the globe. As a young man, Bill enlisted in the United States Navy, serving aboard the iconic USS Enterprise during the Vietnam War. Upon returning home, Bill worked for the L&N Railroad out of Etowah, Tennessee. When a severe accident cut his railroad career short, Bill didn't fold—he pivoted. While balancing a small farm and a home full of seven children, he put himself through school, earning a degree in civil engineering. For over 50 years, he was a faithful pillar of Clearwater Baptist Church. The family will receive friends on Sunday, August 16 from 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM in the chapel of Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home. A funeral service will follow at 6:00 PM in the chapel. A graveside service with full military honors will be held on Monday, August 17 at 11:00 am in Roane Memorial Gardens. [Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, Athens TN](#) is in charge of arrangements

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