

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
NEWS RELEASE
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Officer Danielle Livingston Dies
Officer Was Still Recovering from On-Duty Crash

The Metropolitan Police Department is deeply saddened to announce the death of Officer Danielle Livingston. Officer Livingston, 29, died this morning at an area hospital. Funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time.

The public grew to know Officer Livingston for her determination to overcome the injuries she suffered in an on-duty car accident on June 10th, 2008. Around 4:30 a.m. on that day, Officer Livingston was responding to a call for a sounding burglar alarm when she crashed into a light pole in the 5000 block of Manchester. She had to be cut out of her patrol car. Officer Livingston had no memory of the crash that caused severe neck and spinal cord injuries. Doctors said it would be a year before she walked again, if ever. Surprising them all, Officer Livingston was walking three months later. After weeks in the hospital and a rehabilitation facility, Officer Livingston continued her fight to recover at home.

In September the St. Louis Police Officer's Association hosted a fundraiser to help Officer Livingston with medical expenses. There was great public support at the event and Officer Livingston, who was in wonderful spirits, stood and greeted well-wishers. "It took a lot, but it didn't take my sense of humor," she said of the crash.

Officer Livingston was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit at a local hospital on December 14th, after she became unconscious at home. This past Sunday, Department employees attended a prayer service in her honor. Sadly, Officer Danielle Livingston died just before 9 a.m. on Christmas Eve.

Officer Livingston suffered from asthma and while it's believed that a severe asthma attack may be what rendered her unconscious earlier this month, doctors cannot say at this time, if the prior injuries suffered in the accident contributed in any way to her death. The Metropolitan Police Department is considering her death duty-related.

Officer Livingston joined the Metropolitan Police Department as a recruit in May of 2006. She graduated from the Police Academy in December of 2006 and was assigned to the 2nd District, in South St. Louis. She was the mother of two boys, ages 3 and 8.

The family and the Metropolitan Police Department wish to thank the public for their support and prayers. The family also kindly asks that the media please respect this difficult time for Officer Livingston's young sons by working through the Public Information Division for your inquiries as opposed to contacting the family directly.

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