

Appeal made to find missing MSU student

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Lester Jones Jr. STARKVILLE, Miss. (WTVA) - Police are asking for your help in finding a missing Mississippi State University student.

His family says Lester Jones Junior has been missing since January 11.

His godfather, Mack Turner of Tupelo, told us Jones was heading to the Jackson area to meet with some fraternity brothers but never saw them.

He was actually spotted on security video at a convenience store in Flowood.

Jones was believed to have been driving a 2002 blue Ford Expedition with the Mississippi license plate KTW 714.

You are asked to call Starkville police at 323-0393 if you can help solve this missing person case.

<http://www.wtva.com/>

Police seeking information on missing man
By BRIAN HAWKINS

Starkville police are seeking information on the whereabouts of a missing Mississippi State graduate student who has not had any contact with his family for more than two weeks.

Lester R. Jones Jr., 26, was last seen in person by his brother early in the morning of Jan. 11 at his family's home in Tupelo, where he had stopped briefly en route back to Starkville from Tunica, said Police Department Detective Landon Stamps on Monday.

That night, he was due to meet some fraternity brothers and other friends in Jackson, but never arrived, though a security camera at a Sprint Mart store in Flowood captured his image at 10:18 p.m., Stamps said. No one has seen or heard from Jones since then, Stamps said. Jones did speak with his friends by phone that evening.

His cellular phone was left at the convenience store, was found by another customer and turned in to the store staff. His family retrieved the phone a week ago and found that Jones' father, who lives in California, had left him a voice mail message, Stamps said.

His father, however, has not spoken with Jones, nor has Jones' girlfriend nor his roommate at the home the share on Collegeview Street, Stamps said.

"We have no reason to suspect that there is any foul play involved at this time," said Stamps. "We just have no information on his whereabouts since he was seen at the convenience store in Flowood. He's not in any trouble; we and his family just want to know he's okay." Jones is a graduate student at Mississippi State University who is enrolled in a single course for the spring semester, Stamps said. He has not been to class since Jan. 11, Stamps added. Jones recently purchased a blue 2002 Ford Expedition sport utility vehicle, but it has not been seen since Jan. 11, Stamps said. The Expedition may have the license tag "KTW 714," Stamps said.

Anyone who has made contact with Jones or seen him or his vehicle is encouraged to call Stamps at the Police Department at 323-4131 or any other law enforcement agency <http://www.starkvilledailynews>

Police: No leads on missing student
Wednesday, 03 February 2010

By BRIAN HAWKINS

It's been more than three weeks since any of Lester R. Jones Jr.'s friends or family has seen him, and Starkville police are again urging anyone who has information about his location or may have contacted him to come forward.

Starkville Police Department detectives have blitzed media outlets from Tupelo to McComb with information about the 26-year-old Mississippi State graduate student's disappearance, but no leads on his whereabouts have developed, said Detective Landon Stamps.

Jones has not had any contact with his family or friends for more than three weeks.

"I talked to his mother on Friday, and neither she nor any of his family have had any contact with him. His fraternity brothers and girlfriend haven't heard from him, either," Stamps said Monday. "They're all growing increasingly worried."

Jones, 26, was last seen in person by his brother early in the morning of Jan. 11 at his family's home in Tupelo, where he had stopped briefly en route back to Starkville from Tunica, said Stamps last week.

That night, he was due to meet some fraternity brothers and other friends in Jackson, but never arrived, though a security camera at a Sprint Mart convenience store in Flowood captured his image at 10:18 p.m., Stamps said. No one has seen or heard from Jones since then, Stamps said.

Jones did speak with his friends by phone that evening and his cellular phone was left at the convenience store, was found by another customer and turned in to the store staff, Stamps said. His family retrieved the phone a week ago and found that Jones' father, who lives in California, had left him a voice mail message, Stamps said.

His father, however, has not spoken with Jones, nor has Jones' girlfriend nor his roommate at the home the share on Collegeview Street, Stamps said.

Jones is a graduate student at Mississippi State University who is enrolled in a single course for the spring semester, Stamps said. He has not been to class since Jan. 11, Stamps added.

Jones recently purchased a blue 2002 Ford Expedition sport utility vehicle, but it has not been seen since Jan. 11, Stamps said. The Expedition may have the license tag "KWT 714," Stamps said.

"Anyone who knows the most minute detail about where he might be should call us. What may seem minute to you may end up being important to us and will allow us to make contact with him or locate him," Stamps said.

Anyone who has made contact with Jones or seen him or his vehicle is encouraged to call Stamps at the Police Department at 323-4131 or any other local law enforcement agency. <http://www.starkvilledailynews>.

Group searches Jackson for missing student

Efforts continue for lost student

Sarah Dale Simpkins

Issue date: 2/12/10 Section: News

PrintEmailArticle ToolsPage 1 of 1 Almost a month after being last spotted at a Flowood gas station by a security camera, Mississippi State University graduate student Lester Jones of Tupelo remains missing. Jones was on his way to visit fraternity brothers in Jackson, but he never arrived.

Friends, family and concerned community members gathered last week to search the Jackson area in hopes of finding new information that could lead to Jones.

The search was organized by MSU alumni James Pattman, class of 1979, and Creston Burse, class of 2007.

"Along with Lester, we all are members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.," Burse said. "We all know Lester very well and as a member, it was and is our duty to do all we can. This was just a small example, but the work continues and is far from over."

Pattman said he did not take action sooner because, like many, he hoped Jones's disappearance would turn out to be a misunderstanding.

On Jan. 31, Pattman said he woke up with Jones' situation weighing strongly on his mind. He said he knew it was time for someone to take action.

"I knew that others wanted to take action, but someone had to lead, and I committed to being the person to lead," he said. "I began to place calls to key members of the fraternity in various areas of the country seeking their assistance in developing a strategy to create more awareness of LJ's [Jones's] disappearance."

The plan became known as "A Call to Action" and included providing fliers with information and photos of Jones and the vehicle to be distributed via e-mail, Facebook or any another means. A press release was then written and submitted to media outlets around the state as well as other parts of the Southeastern United States.

<http://media.www.reflector-online.com>

Police redouble efforts to locate missing student
Friday, 26 February 2010

By BRIAN HAWKINS

It's been nearly seven weeks since friends and family of a Mississippi State graduate student have heard from him, and Starkville police are again intensifying efforts to locate him after not receiving any new information on his whereabouts for at least three weeks.

Lester R. Jones, 26, was Jones, 26, was last seen in person by his brother early in the morning of Jan. 11 at his family's home in Tupelo, where he had stopped briefly en route back to Starkville from Tunica.

That same day, he was due to meet some fraternity brothers and other friends in Jackson, but never arrived, though a security camera at a Sprint Mart convenience store in Flowood captured his image at 10:18 p.m., Police Department detectives said.

Jones did speak with his friends by phone that evening and his cellular phone was left at the convenience store, was found by another customer and turned in to the store staff, police said. Just over three weeks ago, Jones' family was contacted, and police believe Jones may have contacted friends or acquaintances in Mexico, said Starkville Police Capt. Frank Nichols on Thursday.

"However, we never developed any firm information that he was in Mexico or is still there," said Nichols on Thursday. "We've received no information to lead us to him."

Jones' family members have been increasingly concerned about him since he does suffer from asthma and must have an inhaler and other medication to control his condition, Nichols said. Thursday.

"For all we know, he may need medication," Nichols said.

Jones is a graduate student at Mississippi State University who is enrolled in a single course for the spring semester, police have said previously. He has not been to class since Jan. 11.

Jones recently purchased a blue 2002 Ford Expedition sport utility vehicle, but it has not been seen since the day he disappeared. The Expedition may have the license tag "KTW 714," police said.

Nichols said police are continuing to interview Jones' friends, family and fraternity brothers in hopes of generating some new information that might lead to locating him.

"We just want anyone who may have been in contact with him to let us know," Nichols said.

Anyone who has made contact with Jones or seen him or his vehicle is encouraged to call the Police Department at 323-4131 or any other local law enforcement agency.

<http://www.starkvilledailynews.com>