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JAMAICA PLAIN

Jamaica Plain woman still missing but believed to be OK

Posted by Matt Rocheleau July 7, 2011 11:02 AM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

The family of a Jamaica Plain woman who has been missing for more than two weeks said today they have “reason to believe she is OK.”



Michigan native Amber DeVoe, 28, has not been seen or heard from by family and friends since June 21.

“We do not know for sure, but we have reason to believe she’s OK,” DeVoe’s mother, Rhonda Durette, said by phone. “We haven’t talked to Amber; we have not seen here; we don’t know where she is.”

Durette said that the family has received information through search and investigation efforts, but declined to elaborate on those details.

“We just really have to believe at this point,” she said.

(Courtesy: Boston Police Department) Amber DeVoe, 28, of Jamaica Plain.

Last week, DeVoe’s mother journeyed from Michigan to Boston to help search for her daughter, who moved to Jamaica Plain earlier this year and worked in the area.

She said while the family will continue to search for DeVoe, “We’re going to try to get back together as a family and regroup in Michigan to figure out our next steps.” That may include backing off on their search efforts in order to give DeVoe “some space.”

“She had an opportunity to contact us yesterday and she didn’t. She must have needed a break.” Durette said, adding that she did not have further information at this time.

As of Thursday morning, a Facebook page created and managed by DeVoe’s relatives to help search for her had amassed more than 6,400 subscribers.

An [update](#) on that page, which DeVoe’s mother confirmed was posted by the

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family last night, read "We do not currently know of Amber's exact location. However, as of today we have reason to believe that Amber is safe and has chosen to leave on her own."

"We continue to pray that Amber will return home safely. We realize this will generate many questions," the post continues. "We ask for patience as we sort through details with the police and family members. After we are able to sort through details, we will give another update. Thank you to everyone who assisted in searching, posting flyers and giving donations. We do request continued prayers for our family in this difficult time and prayers that Amber will return home safely. "

Later, and in response to other rumors and reports, the family posted in that thread: "Amber has not let the family know that she is safe and she has not been located in Florida. We have reasons to believe that she is safe and choosing to not be found."

Boston police said today they had no further updates. Late last week the department said that despite "credible sightings" of her near Washington Street in the South End earlier that week, "detectives were unable to confirm that it was her."

"Police are asking Amber to please contact her family as they are very concerned about her," officials said then.

DeVoe, a Zeeland, Mich., native who recently moved to Boston, is described as 5-feet, 8-inches tall, 180 pounds with blonde hair in a "faux hawk" style and blue-green eyes.

"Amber wears baggy clothing from Hollister, America Eagle, and Abercrombie," friends wrote on Facebook. "She has a distinct Michigan accent."

Her car is missing from her residence at 19 St. Peter St., friends said. She drives a black 2007 Chrysler 300 with MA plates 8LS600.

Friends have said previously that no one -- including her roommate, her family, her employer, her landlord, or softball teammates -- have heard from her since June 21. DeVoe was last seen the day prior.

She is reported to be in good physical and mental health, police said last week, though a relative told officials earlier that DeVoe may be without necessary medication.

Anyone with information on DeVoe's whereabouts have been asked to contact the E-13 police, where a missing person's report has been filed, at 617-343-5630 or 617-343-5628.

E-mail Matt Rocheleau at mjrochele@gmail.com.

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