

Jamaica Plain

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JAMAICA PLAIN

Family ends search, awaits contact from missing Jamaica Plain mom

Posted by Matt Rocheleau July 8, 2011 05:50 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

Family members have ended a two-and-a-half week search for a still-missing, 28-year-old Jamaica Plain mother saying that, while not certain, they believe she left "on her own accord." Relatives say they are returning to their normal routine and hoping to hear from the woman soon.



Amber DeVoe, a native of Michigan who moved to Boston earlier this year and worked in the area, last made contact with family and friends on June 21.

Last week, DeVoe's mother Rhonda Dirette journeyed from Michigan to Boston to help search for her daughter.

She said in a phone interview this week that the family was regrouping and considering their next steps, which could include backing off on their search efforts in order to give DeVoe "some space."

The family now says they have decided to do just that. A [statement](#) was posted Friday afternoon as the "final update" to a Facebook page that has amassed some 6,500 subscribers, including an outpouring

of support from complete strangers, since it was created on June 27 by DeVoe's family to help locate her.

"She had an opportunity to contact us yesterday and she didn't," Dirette said Thursday by phone. "She must have needed a break."

The [Holland Sentinel](#) in Michigan reported that, "DeVoe's 8-year-old daughter — who remained in West Michigan while her mother settled in Boston — does not know DeVoe is missing, according to family members."

The Facebook update Friday says in part, "Please pray for us as we try to make sense of everything and also as we have the difficult task of letting her

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daughter know."

The statement concludes, "Amber, I don't know if you can see this, but if you can, please know that your family and friends are not judging you. We LOVE you! Please call us or come home."

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Below is the full text of the statement posted to Facebook Friday:

We apologize for the confusion and conflicting reports over the last few days. We will try to clear up some questions so that we can give everyone some sort of closure. However, please keep in mind, there are many details that the family doesn't know the answers to and also details that the family has chosen to keep private.

We, Amber's family, do not currently know for sure where Amber is located. Amber has not contacted the family or anyone that we know of to let us know she is safe. However through the course of our investigation, evidence leads us to believe that Amber has chosen to leave on her own accord. We hope she is doing okay, maybe taking some personal time for herself and traveling. We patiently hope for her to contact us or return.

We will not give up hope that Amber will someday contact us or come home. However, unless new evidence leads us to another direction, we will attempt to return to our daily life, work, and families. We are no longer requesting assistance in hanging fliers and conducting searches.

We would like to thank EVERYONE for the help we received. Even the smallest gestures were greatly appreciated. We and Amber are so blessed to have so many people who care and are willing to help in any way. Thank you for your time, donations, information, prayers, kind words and generosity in this difficult time.

Although Amber is not home and safe in her families arms, we find strength in our faith and trust that she is being protected in the arms of God. Please pray for us as we try to make sense of everything and also as we have the difficult task of letting her daughter know.

Amber, I don't know if you can see this, but if you can, please know that your family and friends are not judging you. We LOVE you! Please call us or come home.

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Romans 12:12

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

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