



MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



TODD M. HOOD
Sheriff

JAMES QUATRONE
Undersheriff

Phone: 315-366-2318
Fax: 315-366-2286

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Contact: Capt. Jon Morticelli (315)744-3615

Jonathan.morticelli@madisoncounty.ny.gov

Update to the Investigation into the double murder-suicide in the Town of Madison

On Friday August 7, 2026, at approximately 9:13AM, Deputies from the Madison County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to the residence located at 7625 McCormick Road in the Town of Madison regarding a concern for welfare complaint. Upon arriving at the residence, the first responding Deputy could detect the strong odor of propane/gas in the area and could hear gas escaping into the residence. While observing the residence from the exterior, the first responding Deputy observed two adult subjects, obviously deceased, through a main level window. Upon making entry to the home, a third adult subject was located deceased inside. Evidence on scene suggested that the deaths were the result of a double murder-suicide situation.

The Madison County Sheriff's Office has identified the victims of the double murder-suicide as Steve M. Sislo (76 years old) and Donna M. Walker-Sislo (72 years old), both residents of the home at 7625 McCormick Road. The suspect, Justin Sislo (35 years old), the son of Steve and Donna, was also located deceased within the residence at 7625 McCormick Road. All three deceased individuals had sustained gun shot wounds, and a firearm was recovered on scene.

The Madison County Sheriff's Office did not have extensive dealings with suspect Justin Sislo prior to July of 2026. Justin had been involved in a domestic with his father, Steve Sislo, on March 22nd of 2024, with no charges being sought in relation to that incident. On July 2nd of 2026, the Madison County Sheriff's Office was contacted by the Moravia Police Department (Cayuga County), who were investigating a domestic related assault that occurred in Moravia, for which Justin Sislo was arrested. A 56 year old female, who was engaged in a romantic relationship with Justin Sislo, was the victim of the Moravia complaint. While Moravia Police were conducting the investigation into the crime that occurred in their jurisdiction, they became aware of additional crimes that Sislo had allegedly committed against the same female victim in the Town of Madison. The Madison County Sheriff's Office opened an investigation into the facts brought forth by the Moravia Police Department. As a part of the investigation into the ongoing domestic assault, the Madison County Sheriff's Office executed a search warrant at Justin Sislo's residence at 5172 Hill

Road, Town of Madison, on July 29, 2026. During the execution of the search warrant at 5172 Hill Road, all firearms located in the residence were seized, along with additional evidence. Following the execution of the search warrant, the Madison County Sheriff's Office arrested Justin Sislo for the following offenses:

- 1 count of Assault in the 2nd degree – Class D Felony
- 5 counts of Assault in the 3rd Degree – Class A Misdemeanor
- 1 count of Menacing in the 3rd Degree – Class B Misdemeanor
- 3 counts of Strangulation in the 2nd Degree – Class D Felony
- 1 count of Promoting a Suicide Attempt – Class E Felony
- 1 count of Reckless Endangerment 1st Degree – Class D Felony
- 5 counts of Menacing in the 2nd Degree – Class A Misdemeanor
- 4 counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 4th Degree – Class A Misdemeanor
- 1 count of Criminal Obstruction of Breathing – Class A Misdemeanor
- 2 counts of Harassment in the 2nd degree – Violations

Following arrest processing, Justin Sislo was transported to the Madison County Jail to await arraignment in CAP Court. A bail recommendation was sought from the Madison County District Attorney's Office, who recommended Justin Sislo be remanded to the custody of the Madison County Jail on \$50,000 cash bail. At Justin Sislo's arraignment, the presiding CAP Court Judge, Judge Fisher, remanded Sislo to the custody of the Madison County Jail on \$10,000 cash bail. Following arraignment, Justin's bail was paid by his parents, Steve and Donna, and Justin was released from custody. It should be noted that, at the time of his arrest in Madison County, Justin Sislo was out on \$10,00 cash bail from the charges in Cayuga County as well. Additionally, at the time of his release from Madison County custody, Justin was named as the respondent in two temporary orders of protection that prohibited him from possessing firearms.

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