

# Body found dead near East Elementary identified as suspect in Casey's robbery

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**EDWARDSVILLE** - **Madison County Coroner Stephen P. Nonn** is reporting the identity of a man found dead Tuesday afternoon in Alton as Justin D. Joyce, 34 of Alton.

Joyce was discovered in the wooded area off of **Washington Avenue**, near **East Elementary School** Wednesday afternoon. The incident occurred during recess for the fourth- and fifth-grade classes. **Kristie Baumgartner, assistant superintendent of Alton School District 11**, said during an outdoor recess, an **East Elementary** student noticed a deceased adult in an area adjacent to the playground.

The decedent appeared to have died as a result of hanging. At this time, the investigation has not yielded any evidence of foul play in association with the death.

He was pronounced dead at the scene by **Madison County Coroner's Investigator Diondra Horner** at 12:47 p.m., Jan. 6, 2016.

Joyce was a suspect in an Armed Robbery case at **Casey's General Store**, 2530 East Broadway in Alton on Dec. 5. He was charged by the **Madison County State's Attorney's Office** Dec. 15 and bail had been set at \$750,000.

Toxicology testing for the presence of alcohol and drugs remains pending at this time. The death remains under investigation by the **Alton Police Department** as well.

Funeral arrangements remain pending at this time.