



# Tonya Lee Whipp TIMELINE

Tonya Whipp last spoke with her family on May 26, 2023 and they have not heard from her since. Here is what we know according to the family, its representatives and law enforcement. This is an active investigation and the facts surrounding this case are developing.

## MARCH 2023



Tonya and Russell are seen on video at a local pawn shop purchasing an engagement ring. Tonya appears happy and doing well.

Tonya left the Venice, FL area where she had been living to move back to Auburndale and move in with her boyfriend, Russell Anthony Carroll along with his brother Preston. She commutes back and forth to Venice to work for a short time. She is using her car and actively in contact with family and friends.

## MAY 24 2023

Tonya speaks with 2 of her sisters on a 3 way video call. This is the last contact the family had with her.

## MAY 26 2023

Unconfirmed statement by Russell Carrol that Tonya left while he was at work or received a phone call and walked away from the home.

## MAY 28 2023

Tonya responds to a text message from her sister Robin. She does not believe it was Tonya based on the wording and content of the text message.

## JUNE 1 2023

Unconfirmed report by Aurora "Nikki" Cochran and boyfriend Jake Rudy that Tonya was at her house with Richard Oates for about 45 minutes. She was wearing khaki shorts and an olive green tank top. Richard could be the last person to see Tonya. Law Enforcement would like to speak to him regarding Tonya's disappearance.

## JUNE 6 2023



## JUNE 29 2023

Family files a missing person report with the Auburndale Police Department.

Terry Storie, Chief of Police  
2 Bobby Green Plaza - Auburndale, FL 33823  
Office: (863) 965-5555 FAX: (863) 965-5509  
www.AuburndaleFL.com/police

Issue Date: 06/30/2023  
Prepared by: Crime Analyst Robyn Yarnell  
Approved by: Detective Wall

**Auburndale Police Department**  
"Professional Police Service"

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**\*\*MISSING PERSON\*\***  
Agency case number 23-1444

On 6/29/23 APD responded to a report of a missing person, Tonya Lee Whipp DOB 10/8/1984. Whipp is a WF approximately 5'7" with light brown hair. Last known contact with Whipp was 05/28/23 - 6/1/23. Whipp lives in the Auburndale area where she was last seen.

*If you have any information, please contact Detective Wall at 863-965-5555 or by email at [CWall@Auburndalefl.com](mailto:CWall@Auburndalefl.com)*




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# JUNE 30

2023

Auburndale Police Department took Tonya and Russell's vehicles in for processing and returned them to Russell Carroll's residence.

Auburndale Police Department conducts a well check at the residence she shared with Russell Carroll and his brother. They did not locate Tonya but her car, keys, purse, dog, and other belongings were left behind. Tonya's mobile phone has not been located.

# JUNE ?

2023

# JULY 4

2023

WATE leads a ground search conducted in Auburndale with 9 areas of interest. The sheriff department conducted a S&R training exercise along the edges of Lake Ariana simultaneously. Tonya was not located.

We Are The Essentials "WATE" Search Team joins the family to help search for Tonya.

# JULY 16

2023



# JULY 23

2023



WATE leads a second ground search with a K9 Search & Rescue dog team along with ATV's in specific areas of interest. Tonya was not located.



10:00 pm police scanner traffic gives information about a tip called in regards to Tonya's disappearance. Caller states that she was buried near a trailer on Indiana Court of the Lake Blue Mobile Home Park.

# JULY 24

2023

# JULY 26

2023



7:15 PM: The Auburndale Police Department (APD) along with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) executed a search warrant at 713 Rose Street Lot #56 on Indiana Court in connection with Tonya Whipp's missing person investigation. The search warrant concluded the next day at 5:46 PM. Tonya Whipp was not located.



# JULY 30 2023



- Prayer Vigil at 7:30pm at Lake Blue Park, Auburndale FL Heartland.
- Billboard Campaign Begins
- Crimestoppers announces a total \$4,000 REWARD.
- Auburndale Police reclassify Tonya Whipp as a MISSING/ENDANGERED person.

Boat Search conducted by W.A.T.E. with family and volunteer assistance at Lake Blue. Tonya was not located.



# AUGUST 1 2023



## BILLBOARD LOCATIONS

- Cypress Gardens Blvd across from Legoland
- Dundee Road west of 27
- 92 at County Rd 32A facing westbound.



**Billboard SPONSORSHIP CAMPAIGN**

Cash App: \$PatlizzPea  
Venmo: @Theresa-Rogers-38  
Or contact Vern Gilbert on Twitter: @vern\_gilbert

**MISSING**  
Tonya Whipp **\$4,000 REWARD**  
Heartland **CRIME STOPPERS**  
CALL 800-226-TIPS

**MISSING 1(800)226-TIPS TONYA WHIPP SEE SAY \$4,000 REWARD**

In order to maintain the digital billboards we rely on generous donations. Any amount, starting from \$5.00 and above, would be greatly appreciated and immensely helpful. Your support will play a vital role in getting her information out to the community and ultimately home to her family. You can send a donation to Tonya's Aunt Terri who will get it to Vern Gilbert or contact him directly on twitter.

**Auburndale Police Department**  
2 Bobby Green Plaza • Auburndale, Florida 33823 • (863) 965-5555 • www.auburndalefl.com/police

Date: 08/01/2023  
1891 Jim Keene Blvd  
Winter Haven, FL 33880

**MISSING ENDANGERED PERSON**

On 06/29/2023 Auburndale Police Department responded to a report of a missing person, Tonya Lee Whipp dob 10/8/1984. Whipp is a WF approximately 5'7" with light brown hair. Last known contact with Whipp via phone/social media was 05/28/2023 – 06/01/2023. Whipp lives in the Auburndale area where she was last seen.

 

If you have any information, please contact Det. Wall or Det. Seymour at 863-965-5555 or by email at cwall@auburndalefl.com Or kseymour@auburndalefl.com. To remain anonymous and be eligible for a cash reward of, \$3000.00 from Crime Stoppers and \$1000.00 from an anonymous donor, total cash reward of \$4,000.00. Please contact Heartland Crime Stoppers:  
Phone: 1-800-226-TIPS (8477) or \*\*TIPS  
Web: www.P3Tips.com  
App: Download the free "p3tips" app to your smart device

**Heartland CRIME STOPPERS**  
Polk • Highlands • Hardee  
**1-800-226-TIPS (8477)**  
www.heartlandcrimestoppers.com

**AUG 5**  
2023

Yard Sale to benefit the search for Tonya  
at Freedom Park in Polk City, FL



## UPCOMING EVENTS

WATE and the family announce the 3rd  
public search and are asking for  
volunteers to help find Tonya.

**AUGUST 13**  
2023

**\$4,000 REWARD**  
**(800)-226-TIPS**  
OFFERED BY HEARTLAND CRIME STOPPERS.  
PLEASE CALL IN ANY TIPS, NO MATTER HOW  
BIG OR SMALL TO HELP US FIND TONYA!

**3RD**  
**SEARCH PARTY**  
FOR *Tonya Whipp*

**PLEASE HELP US  
FIND OUR SISTER!**

**When & Where**

- Sunday, August 13, 2023
- Meet at 8:30am - 11:30am
- Lake Blue Park  
Winterhaven, FL

**What to bring?**

- Sunscreen & Bug Spray
- Hydration Drinks
- Cooling Towels

**What to wear?**

We will be searching wooded  
areas with high grass so please  
dress appropriately with hiking  
boots.

SEARCH LED BY:  
WE ARE THE ESSENTIALS SEARCH GROUP  
**(516)253-0610**

NamUs #MP105996  
AUBURNDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT #23-1444  
**(863)965-5555**

FTyer by: [MissingInAmericaNetwork.com](https://MissingInAmericaNetwork.com)

**Anyone with information is asked to contact:**

Auburndale Police Department: (863)965-5555

Heartland Crime Stoppers: (800)226-TIPS

We Are The Essentials Search Team: (516)253-0610