

# Search continues for missing man

BY DUNCAN DENT

Wednesday, November 27, 2019 12:00 PM



Demarquis Houston

There are no leads in the case of a 20-year-old man reported missing in October, the authorities said.

A community watch group continues to search for the man in concert with the Neshoba County Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff Tommy Waddell said that his department is looking into the disappearance of 20-year-old Demarquis Houston who was last seen on Oct. 20 around 10 p.m. leaving his apartment at Pendleton Square Apartments.

Authorities have said they expect foul play may be involved.

Houston was reported missing by his mother on Oct. 23. Houston is 5-foot-9, 185 pounds with brown eyes and black hair.

"We are still investigating the incident," Waddell said on Monday.

Investigator Kenny Spencer is handling the investigation. "We have no updates at this time but we are following any leads that come in," Spencer said.

William Bradford, president of the Community Awareness and Preparedness Team, is working with the families in community-led efforts to assist local government and first responders in addressing issues that affect people locally.

Bradford said a big part of working with the Houston family has been offering support and getting the word out.

"Now that they feel like people know what is going on they feel like they are being heard and that they can relax a little more," Bradford said. "It has been hard on them."

Bradford has been checking in with people in the Sheriff's Department for updates and has printed out flyers and put them around town.

"Pretty much everything we know is on those flyers," Bradford said. "My organization is putting a lot into trying to find him. We relay information we may get to the Sheriff's Department and if it is on public property I try to go out there and look for myself."

Bradford said that they are currently raising funds to handle any expenses connected with finding Houston or that may arise after he is found.

Donations can be given to Bradford or dropped off at the VFW on Highway 16. He said they are also setting up a website to take donations.

"We feel he is still here in Neshoba County," Bradford said.

Anyone with information on Houston is encouraged to contact the Neshoba County Sheriff's Department or call East Mississippi Crime Stoppers at (855) 485-TIPS.

Bradford said that he was accepting information and forwarding it to law enforcement officials as well as donations and volunteers and can be reached at (601) 575-0901.