

The Breeze Courier – Taylorville, Illinois

Hamilton set for late April pre-trial

TAYLORVILLE - Donnella Hamilton will appear before Judge Ronald Spears on the morning of April 27 for pre-trial after the judge approved a request by Hamilton's council to move the pre-trial date.

Hamilton appeared in court this morning for pre-trial but her council, Mark Wykoff, a Springfield attorney, requested the pre-trial be moved due to some issues he discovered.

"I am in receipt of all the discovery tendered to date," said Wykoff. "There are potentially three issues that may generate a motion and I ask for additional time on this matter."

Judge Spears granted the additional time after Hamilton gave her approval to move the date.

Hamilton, 26, has been charged with three counts of first degree murder in connection to the July 2009 murder of Steven L. Brummett. She faces 20-60 years for each count with the possibility of natural life.

If necessary, a tentative jury trial date has been set for the morning of June 1.

In February, Ashley Davis, 21, a second co-defendant in the Brummett case, entered an open plea of guilty to a charge of concealment of a homicidal death. Davis is scheduled to be sentenced on the afternoon of May 11. She faces a maximum sentence of 5 years.

In January, Brandon L. Allsup, 27, pled guilty to murdering Brummett and was sentenced to a term of natural life in the Illinois Department of Corrections without the possibility of parole.