

Profane Note Is Left For Federal Judge

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Someone taped a profane, derogatory note to the window of a restaurant where a federal judge, whose mother and husband were killed earlier this year, was dining Friday night, the authorities said.

The note did not specifically name the judge, Joan Humphrey Lefkow of Federal District Court, but the authorities believe it was probably intended for her, said John O'Malley, assistant chief deputy for the United States Marshals Service in Chicago.

Mr. O'Malley declined to comment further, saying it could compromise the judge's protection.

Witnesses said they saw a man tape the note to the window of the restaurant, according to the police. Federal marshals were on duty inside and outside the building, a spokesman for the police said.

Judge Lefkow has been under federal protection since her husband and mother were killed in the couple's home in Chicago in February.

In March, an unemployed electrician from Chicago committed suicide near Milwaukee after leaving a note confessing to the murders. He was angry with Judge Lefkow for dismissing a malpractice suit he had filed, the authorities said.

In an unrelated case, a white supremacist, Matthew Hale, was sentenced to 40 years in prison last month for soliciting Judge Lefkow's murder.

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Page Column: 01

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