News

Savannah Guthrie makes new video plea as missing mother's ransom deadline nears



In this image provided by NBCUniversal, Savannah Guthrie, right, her mom Nancy speak, Wednesday, April 17, 2019, in New York.
PHOTO COURTESY OF NATHAN CONGLETON/NBCUNIVERSAL VIA AP.

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Savannah Guthrie 's family is "at an hour of desperation" in the search for her missing mother, the "Today" show host said in a video released Monday, just hours before a purported ransom deadline apparently set by Nancy Guthrie 's abductors.

Savannah Guthrie didn't mention the deadline in the video, saying her family in Arizona continues to believe their 84-year-old mother is out there and hearing everyone's prayers.

"She was taken and we don't know where, and we need your help," Guthrie said in the video posted on Instagram, urging people nationwide to be on the lookout. "No matter where you are, even if you're far from Tucson, if you see anything, if you hear anything."

The mysterious disappearance and search has riveted the country — from President Donald Trump, who spoke with Savannah Guthrie last week, to the online sleuths who've flooded social media with tips, theories and rumors.

The FBI is now asking for the public's help on digital billboards up in several major cities in Texas, California, Arizona and New Mexico. The FBI has offered a $50,000 reward for information.

Multiple news outlets received alleged ransom letters during the past week. At least one letter made monetary demands and set deadlines for receiving the money. The first deadline passed last Thursday but a second one was set for Monday evening.

Law enforcement officials declined to affirm that the letters were credible but said all tips were being investigated seriously. The Pima County Sheriff's Department said Monday that law enforcement tip lines have received thousands of calls.

Authorities say they have growing concerns about Nancy Guthrie's health because she needs daily medication. She is said to have a pacemaker and has dealt with high blood pressure and heart issues, according to sheriff's dispatcher audio on broadcastify.com.

Savannah Guthrie expressed hope on Monday that her mom was still alive.

"We believe that somehow, some way, she is feeling these prayers," she said, "and that God is lifting her even in this moment and in this darkest place."

In a video Saturday, she said the family was prepared to pay for her mother's return. "This is the only way we will have peace. This is very valuable to us, and we will pay."

Authorities believe Nancy Guthrie was taken against her will from her home just outside Tucson. She was last seen there Jan. 31 and reported missing the next day after not attending church. DNA tests showed blood on Guthrie's front porch was a match to her, and her doorbell camera was disconnected in the early hours of Sunday morning, Pima County Sheriff Chris Nanos has said.

Outside the home on Monday, neighbors strolled by on their morning jogs and walks, while a county sheriff's deputy remained stationed out front.

Law enforcement's work at Guthrie residences will continue Tuesday "as part of the ongoing investigative process, including the expansion of the search and follow-up on new leads," the Pima County Sheriff's Department said in a statement Monday.



A member of the Pima County sheriffs office remains outside of Nancy Guthrie's home, Monday, Feb. 9, 2026 in Tucson, Ariz.
(AP PHOTO/TY ONEIL)

Detectives and agents carried out follow-up work in the neighborhood and other locations over the weekend as part of the investigation, the Pima County Sheriff's Department said Sunday.

"Investigators have not identified any suspects, persons of interest, or vehicles connected to this case," the department said.

Investigators on Saturday were inside daughter Annie Guthrie's home, about 4 miles (6 kilometers) from Nancy Guthrie's house. On Sunday, an investigator was seen using a pole to search an underground tank behind Nancy Guthrie's home.

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