



Rick Staly, Sheriff

FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"An honor to serve, a duty to protect."

NEWS RELEASE

Date: October 14, 2020
Prepared by: Brittany Kershaw
Phone and Email: (386) 586-2637; bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com
Release #: 188

UPDATE: Body Located at Graham Swamp Confirmed to be Giovanne Sylvain Investigation into the Death is Still Active

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office is continuing to investigate the death of a male found in the water at Graham Swamp during the early morning hours of September 28th, 2020. The subject has been positively identified as that of Giovanne Sylvain, an 18-year-old male who had been missing since the evening of September 25, 2020.

FCSO Major Case is currently investigating the death due to the suspicious circumstances and the autopsy results. The determination of cause of death is awaiting testing from toxicology and anthropology.

The FCSO wants the public to know that this is common practice in death investigations and does not necessarily mean the subject was the victim of a violent act or that there is any threat to the community. Death investigations are inherently complex as they involve multiple disciplines and take time to ensure that proper conclusions and information released are accurate and verifiable.

"We are always committed to demonstrating transparency but we do not want to release any information that later may be determined to be inaccurate," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "We understand that the public has concerns and we will provide more information as the investigation progresses."

The investigation has revealed that Sylvain was at Advent Health on September 25 and was acting erratically. He left shortly after 7:30pm on his bicycle. He is believed to have died a few hours after this. If anyone has any information related to the death or Sylvain's activity after he left Advent Health, please contact the lead investigator on the case, Detective Dawson, at 386-586-4823 or email Tips@Flaglersheriff.com.

Original News Release below:

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Date: September 28, 2020
Prepared by: Brittany Kershaw
Phone and Email: (386) 586-2637; bkershaw@flaglersheriff.com
Release #: 188

FCSO Investigating Body Located at Graham Swamp

On Monday at approximately 7:45 a.m., the Flagler County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) responded to the area of Graham Swamp located at 1635 Old Kings Road regarding a body found floating in the water. Witnesses advised that they saw the body while they were fishing in the area.

Detectives and Deputies responded to the area and located what appeared to be the body of an African American male. Detectives were not able to immediately identify the male due to the fact that it appeared the body had been in the water for several days.

Based on their preliminary investigation, Detectives believe that the body is likely that of 18-year-old Giovanne Sylvain who was reported missing from his residence in Palm Coast on Sunday, September 27. Detectives have been in contact with Giovanne's family since this morning and they have been cooperative with law enforcement throughout the investigation.

As of this time, Detectives have no reason to believe that foul play was involved but every lead will be investigated. Until Detectives are able to conclusively identify the body, Giovanne Sylvain will remain entered as missing in the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the Florida Crime Information Center (FCIC).

"This is an ongoing investigation and we will update the community as soon as we can conclusively identify the deceased," Sheriff Rick Staly said. "Until that time we ask for the community's patience while Detectives complete the investigation and keep the Sylvain family in your thoughts and prayers."

If the public has any information regarding the disappearance of Giovanne Sylvain, or the body located in Graham Swamp, please email tips@flaglersheriff.com or contact Flagler County Sheriff's Office at (386) 313-4911.

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1769 East Moody Blvd., Bunnell, FL 32110

386-437-4116 – Fax 386-586-4888

Mailing: P.O. Box 879, Bunnell, FL 32110

www.flaglersheriff.com