

# Sheriff



**Larry Ashley, Okaloosa County Sheriff**

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## **NO LINK IN OCSO DEATH INVESTIGATIONS**

The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office is in the process of investigating three separate deaths and wants to assure the public, as has been repeatedly told to the news media, all evidence to date shows that these are three separate incidents with no connection.

The most recent death involves an 18-year old African American from Crestview who was murdered and his body left along State Road 85 **January 21st**. The OCSO has leads in this active investigation and none show any common thread to the other reported deaths.

The body of a middle-aged African American male was found in waters off Gulf Island National Seashore **January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015**. The Medical Examiner's Office is awaiting dental records to confirm the man's identity but preliminary results indicate a probable drowning with no evidence of foul play.

The **November 30, 2014** discovery of 18-year old Jonah Campbell of Destin is an active investigation and did not involve natural causes, however investigators have not yet determined if his injury was self-inflicted.

The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office has been diligently working these cases with approximately fourteen hundred man hours expended to date. Investigators have been reviewing all available evidence, interviewing numerous people, and working closely with the Medical Examiner's Office, family members and friends of the victims.

Details of active cases are not released due to the need to protect the integrity of information but all will ultimately become public record at the appropriate time or at the conclusion of the investigation. Although our investigators cannot release specific cause and manner of death or possible motive information in active cases, to counter unsubstantiated speculation by some media sources, we can publicly state, as we already have in response to news media inquiries, there is no evidence of any link in these three separate death investigations.

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Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation.

"The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office provides equal access and equal  
opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate"