



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Michael Terry
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Re: Update -- Drowning – Eagle's Nest

Date: July 19, 2018

Update

A civilian dive team was able to locate and retrieve the body of a diver who went missing Wednesday evening at Eagle's Nest while attempting a free dive.

The victim has been identified as Said Marjane, W/M DOB/7-25-97.

Marjane, and five friends, arrived at Eagle's Nest at 3 p.m.

The group of six completed between 15-20 free dives over the course of several hours.

During a free dive, divers commonly wear wetsuits, masks, fins and weight belts, but do not utilize air tanks.

During the last dive, Marjane told friends he was going to attempt a max breath dive to see how long he could stay submerged.

Marjane descended with another diver, Jacob Fernandez, for safety.

Fernandez said he descended to a depth of 80 feet before returning to the surface.

When Marjane failed to resurface, his friends began to dive in search of him.

They called 911 after they were unable to locate Marjane after a few minutes.

First responders were unable to locate Marjane.

A few hours later a civilian dive team responded and was able to locate Marjane at a depth of 150 feet.

The divers brought Marjane to the surface where he was pronounced deceased by the medical staff on scene.

Marjane's body was transported to the Medical Examiner's Office in Leesburg.

The investigation remains active. No additional details are available at this time.

Original Information

On 07-18-18 at approximately 6:51 p.m., the Hernando County Sheriff's Office Emergency Communications Center received a call regarding a free diver who failed to resurface following a dive at the Eagle's Nest dive area, located at 7199 Cortez Blvd., Weeki Wachee.

Patrol deputies and fire/rescue units were immediately dispatched to the scene.

Emergency responders were not immediately able to locate the missing diver.

A dive team has arrived on scene to search for the missing diver.

Additional details will be provided as they are made available by investigators.

The Office of Sheriff:

The Office of the Sheriff is established by the Florida Constitution. As a constitutional officer, the Sheriff has the exclusive authority to administer his or her agency and is responsible for preserving the peace throughout the entire county, carrying out the laws of the state, the orders of Florida courts, and the ordinances of the Board of County Commissioners. The Sheriff is the chief law enforcement and correctional officer of the county.

Sheriff Al Nienhuis was initially appointed as the Sheriff of Hernando County by the Governor in January of 2011. He was then elected by the people of Hernando County in 2012, and remains accountable to them.