

Body Found in Car Fire Identified

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Ken J. Mascara
Sheriff of St. Lucie County, FL
4700 West Midway Road
Fort Pierce, FL 34982-4825

Contact: Bryan Beaty
Public Information Officer
beatyb@stluciesheriff.com

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According to Sheriff Ken Mascara, dental analysis has determined the identification of the body found in a burned car on Thursday, October 26 to be that of 25-year-old female Brandaris (Brandi) Diandra Johnson of Vero Beach.

“Now that we have identified the victim, our investigation can continue with new leads into what may have happened in the early morning hours of October 26 and led to Ms. Johnson’s death,” said Sheriff Ken J. Mascara. “We continue to ask the public to help us; if someone out there saw Ms. Johnson the night of October 25 or knows anything about the days leading up to her death, please contact our detectives at 772-462-3230 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-273-8477. You can remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward.”

According to Sheriff Ken Mascara, Thursday, October 26 at approximately 12:47 a.m. deputies and fire rescue personnel were called to the area of Blind Creek beach access (5400 block of South Ocean Drive) on South Hutchinson Island for reports of a brush fire.

“When first responders arrived, they found that it was not a brush fire, but in fact a car, fully engulfed in flames,” said Sheriff Ken J. Mascara.

According to the Sheriff, detectives and the State Fire Marshal were called in to conduct an investigation into what kind of car, where it came from and why it might have been burned.

“While conducting their investigation, detectives discovered a body in the back of the car, both the car and body were burned beyond visible recognition,” Mascara said.

This investigation is ongoing and no further information or interviews will be released at this time.

ABOUT THE SHERIFF:

The Florida Constitution establishes the Office of the elected County Sheriff who is responsible for preserving the peace, carrying out the orders of Florida courts and the Board of County Commissioners, and providing deputies at court sessions and meetings of the Board of County Commissioners. The Sheriff is the chief correctional officer of the county. Sheriff Ken J. Mascara is elected by the people of St. Lucie County and is accountable to them.