



August 13, 2010

## **ARKANSAS FATHER DROWNS ATTEMPTING RESCUE**

A 43-year old Arkansas man vacationing in Destin with his children and their friends drowned August 12<sup>th</sup> in the Gulf of Mexico while trying to rescue his teenage son and another boy.

Stephen Presley was pulled from the water behind Pelican Beach Resort around 5:30 p.m. Thursday evening.

17-year old Manuel Tejada says he and Presley's 16-year old son William were swimming in the Gulf when they began to get pulled out by a rip current. Stephen Presley rushed in to the water and began pushing William closer to shore. Someone on the beach gave William a raft and pulled him to safety. Tejada says he began to swim diagonally to the shore and yelled for Stephen to "swim like me". Tejada eventually made it to shore. A lifeguard pulled Stephen out of the water and began administering CPR with assistance from Destin Fire Rescue personnel.

EMS transported Stephen Presley to Sacred Heart Hospital in Walton County where he was pronounced dead.

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**A FULLY ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY**  
Contact: PIO Michele Nicholson 850-651-7420



*Okaloosa County*



*Sheriff's Office*



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