

## Larry Ashley, Okaloosa County Sheriff

1250 Eglin Parkway • Shalimar, Florida 32579-1234 Phone: (850) 651-7410 • Email: sheriff@sheriff-okaloosa.org

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## <u>UPDATE: DROWNING VICTIM IDENTIFIED AS ALABAM</u>A MAN

Update: The 24-year old man who apparently drowned at Crab Island in Destin Thursday has been identified as James Duncan of Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

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The search for a missing swimmer near Crab Island in Destin today ended when a boat from Florida Fish and Wildlife discovered his body in approximately eight feet of water near the area where he was last seen.

Divers from the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office recovered the body of the 24-year old male around 5:08 p.m. north of the Marler Bridge.

A boater reported hearing a distressed swimmer yelling for help on the east side of Crab Island around 2:30 P.M. He threw the man a flotation device and then riders on a wave runner arrived to pull him to safety. However another individual spotted in the water went under and did not resurface.

The OCSO, Coast Guard, Florida Fish & Wildlife, and Okaloosa Island Fire Department assisted in the search effort for the missing swimmer.

His identity is being withheld, pending notification of next of kin.

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The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office is accredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation.