



QUARTZSITE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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August 26, 2015

In afternoon hours, of August 24, 2015, Quartzsite Police Department (QPD) received a call from an agent of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regarding a deceased body found in the La Posa South Designated wash area located east of State Highway 95 at Mile Post 101.5. This location is south on SR 95 from the Town of Quartzsite. The BLM agent physically took QPD officers to the highly decomposed body in a wash. It was apparent the deceased body had been there for some time. QPD officers immediately established a perimeter of the area and determined it was on the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land but within the jurisdiction of QPD. The QPD officers processed the scene into the evening hours. Officers also processed a motorhome and vehicle found in the area of the deceased body. Once finished, QPD requested permission from the Medical Examiner's Office to remove the deceased body and called the Parker Funeral Home.

The QPD investigating Officer Justin Keeling identified the deceased body from the state of Washington driver's license found in his pants. The Officer also located his vehicle registration and other related documents near the scene. On August 25, 2015, QPD Officer Keeling sent Vancouver Police Department officers, located in the State of Washington, to the deceased victim's sister's home to give next of kin notification. Sadly, QPD has positively identified the deceased body as **Terry Franklin Smith** who was a visitor of Quartzsite from the City of Vancouver, Washington. The last time his sister recalled speaking to her brother, Mr. **Terry F. Smith**, was in the last week of July, 2015. She informed Officer Keeling that Mr. **Terry F. Smith** had serious medical conditions.

The Quartzsite Police Department is investigating all angles and aspects of this case to determine and verify the situation surrounding the death of Mr. **Terry F. Smith**. At this time, the death of Mr. **Terry F. Smith** is still under investigation pending the outcome of our findings, evidence, and the Medical Examiner's report. Anybody with any information in reference to having any contact with Mr. **Terry F. Smith** in the month of July or August, please telephone and speak with Officer Keeling at the QPD main phone #928-927-4644.



Mr. Terry Franklin Smith

Ernie Renfro
Chief of Police
Town of Quartzsite
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