



CITY OF CLEARWATER

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

RELEASE 09-126

September 24, 2009

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YOUNG MAN DIES WHILE FREE-DIVING IN GULF OF MEXICO

WHO: Tyler B. Pillion
DOB 2-21-90
702 Pruitt Drive
Madeira Beach, Fla.

WHAT: Accidental Death

WHEN: September 24, 2009
12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Gulf of Mexico, 8 miles out from Sand Key, Clearwater

WHY: Clearwater Police are investigating what appears to be an accidental death in the Gulf of Mexico. Five friends were on a boat eight miles out into the Gulf of Mexico, due west of the Sand Key Coast Guard Station. The group was spear fishing. Some were using scuba tanks and some were free-diving.

The victim, who was free-diving at the time, went into distress below the surface. His friends located him, brought him back to the surface and onto the boat. They headed for shore and called for help.

The Coast Guard met the boat en route and escorted them to Sand Key Park, where they met Clearwater Fire & Rescue Fire Medics. The victim was transported to Morton Plant Hospital where he was pronounced dead. Next of kin notification was made.

Detectives say there are no suspicious circumstances and this appears to be an accidental death.

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