



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

News Release

Contact: Lauren Thompson
Phone: (228) 523-4053

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gulfport Man Dies in Boating Accident off Industrial Seaway Canal

BILOXI, Miss. –The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (DMR) Marine Patrol responded to a call from the Gulfport Police Department July 29 of a boating accident in the Industrial Seaway Canal. A man was killed and a woman was injured in the accident.

DMR Marine Patrol received the call at 9:42 p.m. and when the DMR Marine Patrol officers arrived on the scene, there was one person with minor injuries, identified as Patti Schankin, and one person still missing. The missing boater was her husband, Raymond Schankin.

DMR Marine Patrol officers John Grimsley and Bryce Gex along with Marine Patrol Lieutenants Jimmy Hester and David Dollar coordinated with the Gulfport Police Department and Gulfport Fire Department before beginning dive operations to determine in what area to begin their search for the missing boater.

At approximately, 11:30 p.m., divers with the Gulfport Fire Department with assistance from DMR Marine Patrol officers recovered the body of Raymond Schankin, 45, of Gulfport. The victim's body was turned over to Harrison County Coroner Gary Hargrove.

According to DMR Marine Patrol, the 18-foot fiberglass boat struck a barge near U.S. Marine on the Industrial Seaway Canal.

The accident is still under investigation by the DMR Marine Patrol.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the State by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit the DMR online at www.dmr.state.ms.us.

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