



ROCKY WATSON, SHERIFF
TAD LEACH, UNDERSHERIFF

KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Kootenai County Sheriff's Department
Press Release
June 21st 2009

On June 21, 2009 at approx. 12:45 P.M. Deputies from the Kootenai County Sheriff's Department Recreation Safety Section and personnel from the Northern Lakes Fire Department responded to the Hayden Lake Marina on Hayden Lake for an injury Personal Watercraft accident.

When units arrived on scene, they learned that James H. Graham an 18 year old male from Spokane WA and his brother, John M. Graham an 19 year old male also from Spokane WA, had been operating Personal Watercrafts in the area of Windy Bay on Hayden Lake. According to witnesses, James Graham made a sharp turn and John Graham ended up striking James while he was sitting on his watercraft. James was transported to the Hayden Lake Marina by a private vessel where he was treated for his injuries by medical personnel. James was then transported to KMC where he was pronounced deceased due to his injuries.

The investigation is ongoing and it appears alcohol was not a factor in the accident.

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Department would like to remind all recreational boaters to use caution when operating any type of vessel on the waterways.

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Department is hosting a boating safety class that is free to the public. This class is scheduled for Saturday July 18th at 8:30 A.M. at the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation building on Kathleen Ave. To sign up for the class or for any boating related questions please contact the Recreation Safety Section at 446-2250.

Rocky Watson, Sheriff
By Dep. Ryan Higgins
Case # 09-14015