

# **PRESS RELEASE**

## ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***



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### **3-9-21 Update at 1600**

Cody Caraway's body has been recovered. The recovery took place at 3:10 PM on 3-9-21. The family was notified by Tipp City PD personnel. All personnel and equipment are off of the water. We want to send our condolences to Cody's family in their time of tragedy.

The recovery efforts were greatly enhanced by our mutual aid resources. Tipp City Fire & Emergency Services would like to thank all the departments and personnel involved in the recovery operations over the last two and one-half days.

No injuries were reported by emergency personnel operating at the scene.

### **3-9-21 Update at 1200**

A recovery has not been made at this time. Multiple resources are currently deployed in an attempt to make the recovery. Side scan sonar, underwater sonar, and K9 units are tools that are being utilized. Multiple agencies remain on scene in active recovery efforts. Certified divers are deployed in the water at this time.

### **3-8-21 Update at 1700**

A recovery has not been made at this time. Evidence indicates that the victim is in the area and in the water. The current operational period has ended. TCPD will remain on site at the gravel pit pond throughout the night to secure the area. We ask everyone to avoid the area until further notice. The next operational period will begin tomorrow morning 3-9-21 near 0800.

The victim has been identified as Cody Caraway, 28 years old. He resides in Troy, OH. Family and friends are aware of the situation.

Tipp City Fire & Emergency Services and PD will return tomorrow. The following mutual aid companies will return too: All SARS K9, Beavercreek FD personnel with K9, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and Wright Patterson FD. An additional resource will be added tomorrow, Ohio SAR a team specialized in search and rescue operations.

### **3-8-21 at 1400**

On March 7, 2021 at approximately 7:49 PM, crews were dispatched for a potential victim in the water at the gravel pits. A male reported to Miami County Communications Center that his

friend went fishing and had not returned. The location is the pond at the gravel pits; 2900 East SR 571.

A single male went fishing at the pond. His friend became concerned when he did not return after sunset. Upon arrival crews did locate the vehicle being used by the single male. The car did not have fishing gear, poles, or any associated equipment. Crews immediately began a ground search for evidence of a victim in the water. Tipp City PD has been involved since the beginning of the event. Law enforcement began investigating cell phone and social media use.

On scene crews continued to search on foot near and around the entire body of water and along the Great Miami River which is across the roadway from this location. Mutual aid was summoned from Vandalia FD for drones with thermal imaging capabilities. The drones did not locate any heat sources. The Ohio State Patrol helicopter was in flight nearby. OSP offered to respond to provide air support with imaging capabilities. The search from the helicopter did not reveal any evidence of heat signatures.

Planning and logistics were being arranged for the next operational period. Multiple sources were consulted including; Piqua FD Chief & Dive Team, Region 3 Technical Rescue Team coordinators, and Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

The victim is a white male in his 20's and reportedly from Troy. Operations were terminated at 11:00 PM.

The next operational period began around 0800, on 3-8-21. The day began with a briefing at Tipp City Fire and Emergency Services station. Two members of Piqua FD who are certified dive rescuers were in attendance with TCFES personnel. TCPD have been providing on scene security and assistance throughout the incident. We decided to contact Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio State Patrol, and Wright Patterson Air Force FD as mutual aid agencies with various and distinct resources.

Beavercreek FD and All SAR K-9 are providing searches by trained service dogs in the recovery. Water searches by ODNR personnel in personal protective equipment located a single shoe, two fishing poles and a tackle box this morning around 11:00 AM. The original reporting person verified that the evidence belongs to the male in question.

Personnel are currently in the water at the pond searching for the victim.

"The recovery is a total team effort. We are extremely grateful of the Miami Valley's multitude of resources in emergency services."

Fire, EMS, Police and all other crews have not reported any injuries at this time. TCFES remains staffed to handle regular and routine emergencies.

"The pond is static water, non-flowing water, it is at a seasonally high level. The water is cold. Cold water transfers heat away from the body tremendously fast. If you are going to go fishing, we implore you to wear a life jacket at all times."

Cameron Haller, Chief of Emergency Services