

# Media Release

## Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

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**August 31, 2015**

### ***Recent Incidents Overview – Fatal Accident / Fraud Telephone Calls***

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#### **Fatal Accident takes 1 life –**

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION – Last night about 8:15PM, YCSO dispatch received a call from a man in his 30's indicating his friend had been in a rollover accident and was seriously injured. The accident occurred in a remote area well off Perkinsville Road (Forest Road 318A) outside of the eastern boundaries of Chino Valley, Arizona. The reporting party, who was a passenger in the involved red Jeep, had hiked with a 5-year-old child for about an hour from the accident site to obtain cell service and make an emergency call. YCSO deputies immediately responded along with a DPS Ranger helicopter to search the pitch black wilderness area. Just before 11PM, the DPS Ranger crew located an overturned Jeep. After landing the crew confirmed the driver of the vehicle, in his 40's, had died. In the meantime, medical personnel arrived to treat the passenger and child.



Deputies are still investigating the exact cause of the apparent single vehicle accident. Initial indications are that while the Jeep's driver was negotiating an obstruction in the road, the Jeep rolled backwards off the road and onto an embankment. The Jeep then fell about 80 feet, overturning, before coming to rest. The child was apparently ejected. The passenger crawled away from the wreckage after attempting to treat the driver for his injuries. Both the child and passenger were transported for non-life threatening injuries. The deceased driver is the boyfriend of the child's mother. The release of names is pending verification by investigating deputies and next of kin notifications.

**Fraud/Scam calls** – This past weekend, YCSO and the Prescott Police Department received numerous reports from residents regarding scam phone calls. In a majority of the calls, a "Lt. Collins" from the "Globe Sheriff's Department" explains to the person answering that they have an arrest warrant and suggests they can take care of it by sending money via a pre-paid credit card. It appears the suspect was calling from a 928 area code and targeting Yavapai County residents. It should be

noted that Globe, Arizona, is actually within the boundaries of the Gila County Sheriff's Office and has its own police department.

**Residents should understand that no law enforcement agency operates warrant service in this manner and these calls are completely fraudulent. Please share this information with others who may be subject to such calls. Many times our senior population is targeted. The best defense is to simply hang up on the caller. If calls persist, request assistance from your phone company to block future calls.**

*Citizens can contact the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office with information or questions at 928-771-3260 or the YCSO website:*

[www.ycsoaz.gov](http://www.ycsoaz.gov)