

OFFICE OF THE  
**SHERIFF**  
INYO COUNTY, CA



**WILLIAM R. LUTZE**  
**SHERIFF**

**JEFF HOLLOWELL**  
**UNDERSHERIFF**

*"A Professional Service Agency"*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 10, 2016

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Vehicle Fire – Possible Homicide

At approximately 8:00pm last night Inyo County Sheriff's Dispatch was notified of a fire (visible from Highway 395) south of Manzanar Reward Mine. Responding agencies discovered a vehicle on an unpaved and remote road, later determined to be a late model convertible Ford Mustang, fully engulfed in flames. As the fire was being extinguished, severely charred remains of a body were seen in the passenger side of the vehicle.

Based on the preliminary investigation, this case is being handled as a possible homicide. Inyo County Sheriff's Office is working with Eastern Sierra Arson Taskforce and the Inyo County District Attorney's Office.

Due to the severity of the fire there is no positive identification of the remains or the vehicle at this time. The remains are in the process of being transported to Orange County Coroner's Office.

We are asking for the public's assistance. If anyone has any information that could assist in this investigation, please call 760-878-0383.

Updates will be released as they become available.

\*Responding agencies: CalFIRE, Forest Service, Independence Volunteer Fire Department, Inyo Sheriff, and CHP.

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