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CHIEF DARRYL DAWSON
Halifax Fire Department

CHIEF BERT MARTIN
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Liberty Fire Department

CHIEF L.C. FISHER
North Halifax Fire Department

CHIEF DEAN WALTMAN
Oak Level Fire Department

CHIEF MONTY LOWERY
Midway Fire Department

CHIEF RODNEY FRANCISCO
Triangle Fire Department

CHIEF DEAN GUTHRIE
Brookneal Fire Department

BRESHA BRAUNECKER
President, Halifax County Rescue Squad

CAPTAIN TRACEY FOWLKES
Halifax County Rescue Squad

SEARCH FOR MISSING CHILD 17-NOV-09

(Halifax County, Virginia), November 17, 2009 · At 2215 (10:15 PM) last evening, the Halifax County E-911 Communications Center received a call that a 21 month old child was missing from 5091 Philpott Road.

Immediately dispatched were Deputies with the Halifax County Sheriff's Office, Virginia State Police Troopers, the Emergency Services Coordinator, Halifax County Search and Rescue Team, and the Halifax County Underwater Response Team. Also dispatched were Halifax County Sheriff's Office K-9 teams and a Virginia State Police Helicopter (Medflight 3) from Lynchburg, Virginia.

Upon arrival, authorities discovered approximately 40-50 volunteer searchers, made up of community residents and family members, conducting a search of the surrounding property. Law Enforcement officers conducted a quick search of the immediate vicinity without success. While authorities were awaiting the arrival of the K-9 teams and the State Police Helicopter, the victim was found by volunteers at the edge of the pond at 2307 (11:07 PM).

The victim, a 21 month old black male, was immediately pulled from the cold water and CPR initiated. The victim was subsequently transported by EMS personnel to Halifax Regional Hospital in South Boston. After an exhaustive resuscitation attempt, the young child was pronounced dead early this morning.

At the time of disappearance, the child was home with his mother. At this time, Halifax County Sheriff's Office Investigators do not expect foul play; however, a full investigation is underway. The victim's body is being sent to the State Medical Examiner's Office in Richmond, Virginia for autopsy with a full report not being expected for several weeks.

The young victim's name will be released soon, pending the completion of the investigation.

The thoughts and prayers of all responders are with the family during their time of loss. The County of Halifax extends its deepest sympathies to this family.

Approximately, 30 personnel with multiple agencies responded to assist. Planning is underway for a critical incident stress debriefing session for all responders.

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For more information contact Halifax County Emergency Services Coordinator, Kirby Saunders or Halifax County Sheriff, Stanley Noblin.

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