3rd Update re. Submerged Vehicle Investigation

Deceased; Larry Nicholas, W/M, DOB of 06/24/1968

Divers with the St. Petersburg Fire Department entered the waters this morning at about 10:00 a.m. and recovered the body of Larry Nicholas about 15 minutes later. Divers report the body was found in approximately 10 feet of water and about 25 feet from the east shore line, not far from where his vehicle entered the water.

Mr. Nichols was the registered owner of the 2010 Jaguar recovered from the lake last night. He was positively identified by identification found on his body as well as by his father, Steven Nicholas, who was on the scene at the time of recovery.

According to relatives, Nichols was driving his Jaguar when he left his brother’s house in the 4200 block of 5th Avenue North at about 6:20 p.m. and was suppose to be heading out to pick up a pizza at a restaurant located in the area of Diston Plaza at 38th Avenue North and 49th Street. Nicholas was visiting his brother at the time and resides in Tampa.

When he did not return after a reasonable period of time, they attempted to call him on his cell phone without success. Family members then drove out looking for him when they came across the scene of the recovery efforts at 20 Avenue North and 41st Street where they made inquires of the officers on the scene. After providing a description car it was determined that it matched that of the vehicle submerged in the lake.

At this point, it appears that Nicholas's death was the result of an accident in which his vehicle left the roadway and entered the water. The cause of the accident is under investigation, but at this time there is no indication of the involvement of a secondary vehicle. The cause of death will be determined by the Medical Examiner's Office.

I do not have Nicholas's local address as yet, but it appears he also maintains New York residency.

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