Maricopa County Sheriff’s Lake Patrol Detectives have identified Salt River Drowning Victim from Sunday afternoon

MCSO has identified the victim in Sunday afternoon’s drowning as 20 year old Taurean Christopher H. Lawler from Phoenix.

On Sunday May 28th just after 5:30pm, Taurean C. H. Lawler was attempting to swim across the Lower Salt River near the Sheep Crossing recreation site when he began to struggle.

Lawler was attempting to cross the river from the south bank to the north bank, however approximately ¾ across the river, he began to struggle and went under water. According to witness statements, Lawler was under water for about 10 minutes and did not resurface.

MCSO Lake Patrol Deputies responded to the scene and searched the area Lawler was last seen but had negative results.

Utilizing a submersible (ROV) members, of the MCSO Search and Recovery Dive Team, located Lawler in about 14 feet of water, 25 feet down current from where he initially went under.

Lawler’s body was subsequently recovered from the Salt River at 11:45pm. Based on witness statements and a preliminary overview of the body, foul play is not suspected in Lawler’s death.

Lawler was later conveyed to the Maricopa County Medical Examiner’s Office. This investigation is ongoing pending the results and finding by the Medical Examiner’s Office.