



BRADLEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE BRADLEY COUNTY JUSTICE COMPLEX

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MALE INMATE PRONOUNCED DECEASED

CLEVELAND, Tn. (May 17, 2021) — A male inmate at the Bradley County Jail, brought in for a traffic incident, collapsed in the booking area following his initial intake. Inmate was transported to Tennova Hospital, where he was pronounced deceased at approximately 05:00 a.m.

Earlier that morning at approximately 2:00 a.m., a Tennessee Highway Patrol trooper observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed on I-75 in Bradley County. An attempt was made to stop the vehicle, followed by a pursuit after the vehicle refused to stop. The vehicle traveled into McMinn County and wrecked. The female driver and male passenger were both arrested and transported to the Bradley County Jail. Upon initial intake, the male subject collapsed in the booking area of the facility, at which time, the jail's medical staff attempted resuscitation to no avail. Male subject was transported to Tennova Hospital and pronounced deceased at approximately 5:00 a.m.

Sheriff Steve Lawson contacted District Attorney General Steve Crump's office, requesting an investigation by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, who arrived shortly after and began their work.

The male subject was identified as Matthew Crisp and will be transported to the Medical Examiner's Office for an autopsy to determine cause of death. Next of kin has been notified.

Given that this is an open investigation, it will be treated as such and further information will be limited until cause of death has been confirmed.



Matthew Lee Crisp
DOB: 2-18-95

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About BCSO

The Bradley County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) is a law enforcement agency serving all residents of Bradley County, Tennessee. The elected sheriff is Steve Lawson, who has held the post since September 2018. The current chief deputy is Brian Smith. BCSO is located at 2290 Blythe Avenue SE, Cleveland, TN 37311 and can be reached at 423-728-7300 for non-emergency calls.
