



SHERIFF KOOTENAI COUNTY



SHERIFF **BEN WOLFINGER**

UNDERSHERIFF **DAN MATTOS**

Media Release CD'A Lake Fatality Crash Investigation February 13, 2017

Kootenai County, Idaho: The Kootenai County Sheriff's Office has completed its investigation of the July 30, 2016 boat crash that claimed the lives of Caitlin A. Breeze, Justin T. Honken, and Justin M. Luhr on Lake Coeur d'Alene.

After an extensive investigation and reconstruction of the crash, The Kootenai County Sheriff's Office Detectives have forwarded their findings to the Kootenai County Prosecuting Attorney for consideration on a variety of criminal charges.

The investigation found that on the night of July 30th, 2016 a vessel owned and operated by Dennis David Magner (Spokane, WA) and occupied by four other individuals, was southbound on Lake Coeur d'Alene when it struck a stationary vessel occupied by Breeze, Honken and Luhr, all of whom were fatally injured.

When Deputies began their initial investigation; four of the occupants, to include Magner provided false information about the true identity of the driver of Magner's boat. In the days following the crash, information became public that three people were missing and presumed drowned. It was then, that three of the occupants aboard Magner's boat recanted their original statements to Deputies and identified Magner as the person actually operating the vessel at the time of the crash.

Investigators have worked diligently to gather the facts and untangle the events that led to the crash the night of July 30th. The Sheriff's Office would like to thank the families and the community for their patience as it remains a tragedy for those who have lost loved ones in this crash.

Until this case can be fully reviewed by the Kootenai County Prosecutor's Office, it will remain classified as "Active." Additional information and details will *only* be released upon the final determination of formal charges to be decided by the Kootenai County Prosecutor.

Ben Wolfinger, Sheriff
By: Det. Dennis Stinebaugh