

and quote.

Ref: POL/CDU/GBD/35/9

15th July, 2014

Ms. Barbara Wallace
LES-Manager, Supervisor, ACS
c/o United States Embassy
Nassau, Bahamas

**RE: MISSING PERSON – JOHN ELTON PETTY, D.O.B: 27.12.50 OF #452
FOREST SQUARE, LONG VIEW, TEXAS 75605 – CASE #1-14-062624**

On Monday, 14th July, 2014, at about 4:31 pm, the Police at West End Division, Grand Bahama, received information that a male individual went diving in waters off West End and had not been seen or heard from since.

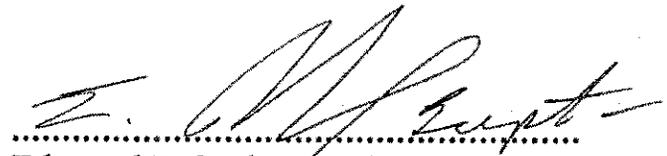
In responding to this report, officers went to Old Bahama Bay Resort where they spoke to Leading Seaman, Captain T. Berkley c/o Royal Bahamas Defence Force, who gave certain information. Subsequently, Mr. George Raymond Hughes Jr., D.O.B: 04.12.64 of #378 North Lake Boulevard, Apt. #152 North Palm Beach, Florida was seen and interviewed. He informed officers that he is the captain of a 65 ft dive boat, namely "Shearwater" used to take passengers on scuba diving tours with a crew of four (4) persons.

He further informed that on Sunday, 13th July, 2014, at about 2:00 am, he along with his crew members and seven (7) passengers departed West Palm Beach, Florida enroute to West End, Grand Bahama, arriving at 8:30 am on the same date. Sometime around 9:30 am, two (2) additional passengers boarded the vessel where they eventually left the marina enroute to Memory Rock, arriving four (4) miles north of said location around 1:30 pm. All of the passengers entered the waters with their diving gears attached, assisted by crew members who were also in the waters at different times.

Sometime after 6:45 pm, on the same date, Mr. Hughes stated that he observed passenger, John Elton Petty, D.O.B: 27.12.50 of #452 Forest Square, Long View, Texas 75605 holding onto the line going up to the boat. He remained in the water with two (2) other passengers and sometime after 6:50 pm, the three (3) of them returned to the boat as it was time to leave. Mr. Cornor Cassidy, D.O.B: 26.06.87 of 5972 Juddfalls Road, Lakeworth, Florida 33403 informed him that passenger John Elton Petty was missing. They conducted a search of the entire area with negative results in locating him. Hence, the U.S. Coast Guard was contacted and informed and as a result they sent a vessel and an aircraft to assist in the search.

Sometime during mid-morning on Monday, 14th July, 2014, officers from the Royal Bahamas Defence Force joined forces and assisted in the search. During the search, the following items were found: a mask, a tank, a buoyancy device, a camera and a weight belt. Some of the items showed visible signs of apparent bite marks. All of the items are suspected to be that of John Elton Petty. Statements were recorded from passengers and crew members.

The scene was processed by Scenes of Crime Officers and the recovered items collected for further examination.



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Edmund Rahming (Mr.)
Superintendent of Police
OIC Central Detective Unit
Grand Bahama & Northern Bahamas
Royal Bahamas Police Force

ER/epm