

News Release 12-6-20

Lipan death investigation continues

On 12-6-20 the Hood County Sheriff's Office received the statement and findings below from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, which states the following:

"Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is aware of this tragic loss of life and has provided assistance to the sheriff's office in evaluating the circumstances and information available.

Texas Game Wardens, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists, and subject matter experts conducted an inspection of the scene. There is not any evidence of a predatory attack by a mountain lion at the location where the victim was found. A United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services trapper also evaluated the evidence and came to the same conclusion as our staff.

Sheriff Roger Deeds

Public Information Officer Lt. Johnny Rose

Hood County Sheriff's Office 400 Deputy Larry Miller Dr. Granbury Texas 76048

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Fatal mountain lion attacks on people are extremely rare. In the past 100 years, there are fewer than 30 confirmed deaths due to mountain lion attacks nationwide. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has no records of a confirmed fatal attack on a person by a mountain lion in Texas. Texas Parks and Wildlife also has no confirmed records of a mountain lion from Hood County.

The recent confirmed sighting from Rowlett in Dallas County was nearly 100 miles away and is considered unrelated to this event." End of TPWD statement.

It appears we have two conflicting reports from two agencies that are experts in their field.

We stand behind the preliminary findings of the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office, that rule out a suicide and a homicide on the death in question.

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The investigation continues and we continue to gather pictures and statements from locals that have seen and capture on film images of mountain lions.

We will wait for the final autopsy report from the TCME Office.

Hood County Sheriff Roger Deeds always errs on the side of caution when it comes to the safety and well-being of the citizens of Hood County and will continue to alert them of any safety issue that may affect them.

