



Garfield County Coroner's Office

Robert M. Glassmire
Coroner

PRESS RELEASE

Date: January 2, 2018

Subject: Two killed in private property motor vehicle crash near Rifle, CO on December 29, 2017.

Identity of Deceased:

Trent Johnson, 41-years old, resident of Glenwood Springs, CO.

Matthew Smith, 36-years old, resident of Rifle, CO.

On Friday December 29, 2017 at 1:05am the Garfield County Coroner's Office was dispatched to the Puma Paw Ranch located on CR 219 in Rifle, CO for a report of a motor vehicle crash involving two fatalities. Upon arrival the coroner's office pronounced Trent Johnson and Matthew Smith dead. Both were passengers in a motor vehicle. Another passenger and the driver of the vehicle were transported to local hospitals and the coroner's office does not have any information on their status.

Both Smith's and Johnson's manner of deaths are being investigated as accidents. Autopsies are scheduled for later today and their causes of death will most likely attributed to multiple blunt force injuries. The motor vehicle crash is being investigated by the Colorado State Patrol.

No further information is available.

Robert M. Glassmire
Garfield County Coroner