



# Allen County Coroner

1 MAIN STREET, SUITE 555  
FORT WAYNE, IN 46802-1804  
PHONE 260-449-7389  
FAX: 260-449-7577

Craig L. Nelson, DDS\*  
Allen County Coroner

PRESS RELEASE  
Tuesday, May 30, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To: All Media Outlets  
From: Christopher Meihls  
Deputy Coroner  
Allen County Coroner's Office

The Allen County Coroner's Office has identified and notified the next of kin of the deceased individual that was found and recovered from the pond in Lake Side Park, 1400 Lake Avenue, Fort Wayne, in Allen County, Indiana, at about 10:00 am, Thursday, May 25, 2017. The deceased was identified as Deonte Antone Cooper, male, black, 28 years of age, of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Cause of Death is Pending and the Manner of Death is Pending.

The incident remains under investigation by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, the Fort Wayne Police Department, the Allen County Prosecutor's Office, and the Allen County Coroner's Office.

Christopher Meihls  
Deputy Coroner  
Allen County Coroner's Office

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**Michael Burris\***  
Chief Investigator

**Becky Stuttle\***  
Senior  
Investigator

**Chris Meihls\***  
Investigator

**Eric Balliet†**  
Deputy

**Kevin Rarey\***  
Deputy

**Dick Alfeld\***  
Deputy

\*Indiana Certified Medicolegal Death Investigator