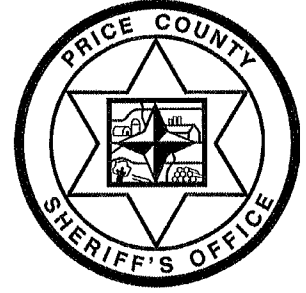




PRESS RELEASE



Price County Sheriff's Office
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(715) 339-3011 Telephone

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 2, 2026

Price County Sheriff Brian Schmidt reports on June 1, 2026 the Rusk County Sheriff's Office received a 9-1-1 call reporting a deceased male subject was located in the water near a pontoon in Lac Sault Dore (Soo Lake) in the Town of Elk, Price County, Wisconsin.

When deputies of the Price County Sheriff's Office arrived on scene, the decedent had been brought to shore by the original caller. It appears at the time of this accident; the decedent was filling the gas tank of the pontoon when his leg became stuck in the ladder of the vessel which held him under water.

The decedent was identified as Stanley Gruszka of Phillips, Wisconsin.

The Price County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Price County Coroner's Office, Wisconsin DNR, Phillips Fire Department, and Central Price County Ambulance Service.

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