



ROCKY WATSON, SHERIFF
TAD LEACH, UNDERSHERIFF

KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

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MEDIA RELEASE
JULY 22, 2009**

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Department is currently investigating an incident that occurred this afternoon at the Honeysuckle Beach Boat Ramp on Hayden Lake.

Approximately 2:35 p.m. deputies and emergency medical personnel responded to the boat ramp area at Honeysuckle Beach to an initial report that a vehicle, pulling a boat had crashed into multiple cars. Prior to emergency personnel arrival, they were updated that it appeared that the driver of the vehicle may have had a heart attack and bystanders were performing CPR at that time.

Initial investigation does indicate that the driver may have had a heart attack while pulling his boat from the water at the ramp. The driver accelerated rapidly, striking at least one car and a mail box before the vehicle stopped near House Lane, south of the parking area. The driver's friend, who was at the boat at the time of the incident, was knocked to the ground.

Both the driver and his friend were transported to Kootenai Medical Center. At this time it is unknown what their status is. Names are being withheld until family members can be notified and the investigation completed. More information will be available tomorrow.

Rocky Watson, Sheriff

By: Capt. Ben Wolfinger