



SHERIFF KOOTENAI COUNTY



SHERIFF, **BEN WOLFINGER**

UNDERSHERIFF, **TRAVIS CHANEY**

MEDIA RELEASE **May 28, 2013**

On May 26, 2013 at about 6:30 AM, the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office responded to the 16000 block of Danielle Rd, in the City of Hayden for a welfare check on a male.

The caller reported that he saw two young males dragging a third male, that was possibly intoxicated into an adjacent yard.

Once deputies arrived on scene, they found a 16 year old male that was semi-conscious and appeared to be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. The male appeared to have been suffering from hypothermia and he had a severe burn to his arm. The male was transported to Kootenai Health for treatment.

The deputies contacted several juveniles at the residence where the male was dragged from and learned that there had been an underage drinking party while the homeowners were out of town. At one point in the evening, the 16 year old victim arrived at the house. He continued to drink and eventually passed out in the back yard. The homeowner's son tried several times to wake him; however he was too intoxicated so they moved him closer to the fire pit to stay warm.

Several hours later, the homeowner's son again checked on him and again attempted to wake him unsuccessfully. He and another house guest sprayed water on the victim in an attempt to wake him and when that didn't work, they drug him off the property.

The victim was treated at Kootenai Health for his injuries and hypothermia and has been released. At this point he is not cooperating with the detectives.

Possible charges are pending for several juveniles for felony child endangerment as well as alcohol and drug violations.

The case is currently under investigation by the KCSO Detectives Division. Due to the victim and suspects all being juveniles, no names are being released. Further information may be released as it comes available.

Ben Wolfinger, Sheriff
By: Lieutenant Stu Miller