

Winnebago County Sheriff's Department



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 24, 2021 Contact: Katie Zimmerman (815) 319-6322 Zimmermank@wcso-il.us

UPDATE: Victim Rescued from the Rock River Passes Away

On March 22, 2021, at approximately 11:40am, Winnebago County Sheriff's Deputies responded to 300 Block of Northway Park Road in Machesney Park after receiving a report that a child had fallen in to the Rock River. Upon arrival, deputies learned that a 2 year old boy was in the water. Deputies went in to the water in an attempt to find the child and called for assistance from the Loves Park, North Park and Rockford Fire Departments. After several minutes, a North Park Fire Department diver located the boy. Paramedics immediately began life saving measures. The child was transported to a Rockford hospital with life threatening injuries. During the early morning hours of March 23, 2021, the child was transported by helicopter to American Family Children's Hospital at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Wisconsin. Despite all lifesaving efforts the child succumbed to his injuries at the hospital today.

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Department is still conducting a follow up investigation. No further details can be released at this time.