



**Robert R. Snaza**  
Sheriff

# OFFICE OF THE LEWIS COUNTY SHERIFF

345 W. Main Street  
Chehalis, WA 98532-1900  
Phone: (360) 748-9286 • Fax: (360) 740-1476 • TDD: (360) 740-1480  
[www.lewiscountywa.gov/sheriff](http://www.lewiscountywa.gov/sheriff)

**"Public Safety through Professional Service"**

**Wes H. Rethwill**  
Undersheriff

**Dustin G. Breen**  
Field Operations Chief

**Chris J. Sweet**  
Corrections Chief

**Kevin M. Engelbertson**  
Special Services Chief

## PRESS RELEASE

**Date/Time:** 06-28-22 @ 1450 Hours  
**Contact:** Chief Deputy Dusty Breen  
**Phone:** (360) 740-1327  
**Release #:** 2

### MAN LOCATED IN SEARCH OF RIFFE LAKE

On 06/28/22, shortly after 2:00 pm, Thurston County Sheriff's Office Dive Rescue Team, assisted by the Lewis County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol, located and recovered a deceased male during their search of Riffe Lake. It is believed the decedent is the individual reported to have drowned the day prior, and no further searches are being conducted.

The Lewis County Sheriff's Office, as well as the Lewis County Coroner's Office, continue to investigate the incident. Further details on the identity of the decedent, as well as cause and manner of death, will be provided by the Lewis County Coroner's Office when available.

###

**RELEASED PREVIOUSLY ON 06-28-22 @ 0900 Hours**

### RIFFE LAKE SEARCH CONTINUES FOR RANDLE MAN

On 06/27/22, shortly after 3:00 pm, deputies were dispatched to Riffe Lake for a report of a possible drowning. The initial deputy on-scene was able to enter the lake on a private boat, while members of the Lewis County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol continued to respond. Witnesses from two different vessels advised a 36-year-old male of Randle had attempted to swim to shore from an inoperative vessel. They advised the male began to swim a short distance, but then appeared to be in distress. A boat providing a tow to the inoperative vessel disconnected and attempted to rescue the male, but they were unable to reach him in time.

Thurston County Sheriff's Office Dive Rescue Team responded to assist in recovery of the individual; however, they were unsuccessful prior to nightfall. The team will be continuing their search today, 06/28/22, in an effort to locate the Randle man.

**Lewis County Sheriff's Office Mission Statement:**

Being a committed community partner, providing professional service to enhance the safety, security, and quality of life in Lewis County.

Unfortunately, Lewis County is not a stranger to these types of tragedies and we would like to remind the public while warm weather has finally arrived, the water within our lakes and other bodies of water remain cold and have a potential to be hazardous.

###

**Lewis County Sheriff's Office Mission Statement:**

Being a committed community partner, providing professional service to enhance the safety, security, and quality of life in Lewis County.