

## Man found dead in NMB area nearly 10 years ago identified

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by Caroline Surface

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The man, who's been in care as [John Doe since February of 2016](#), was identified as [Malquan Tyreek Hawkins](#), according to Chief Deputy Coroner Tamara Willard. (Credit: Horry County Police Department)

HORRY COUNTY, S.C. (WPDE) — A man who has been in care of the Horry County Coroner's Office since 2016 has been identified.

He's been in care as [John Doe since February of 2016](#) and was identified as Malquan Tyreek Hawkins, according to Chief Deputy Coroner Tamara Willard. He was 22-years-old at the time of his death.

*As an infant, Malquan was taken into DSS custody, adopted at a very early age but again taken into DSS custody as a teenager, then aging out of the*

***NC foster care system," Willard said. "We believe he last lived in the New Hanover County area but has ties to Edgecombe and Nash Counties. We welcome any information from viewers about Malquan and any ties he may have had to Horry County, this information could answer questions investigators and his biological family have."***

Officials said Malquan was [found dead in a resort pool in the North Myrtle Beach](#) area on Feb. 6, 2016.

The genealogy partners who assisted and donated their time to assist on this cold case include:

- Genealogist Mike Fanning
- Chief of the Pawleys Island Police Department
- Genealogist Dena M. Chasten
- Genealogist Christine Burke with Genetic Genealogy for Law Enforcement

Willard also thanked the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigations, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division and Horry County Police Department for their assistance.

***"Additionally, we want to thank Malquan's biological family, they always hoped to find him but never thought it would be under these circumstances," Willard said. "They claimed him and welcomed him back home."***