

Morgan Co. Sheriff's Dept. responds to discovery of skeletal remains

MORGAN COUNTY — The Morgan County Sheriff's Department recovered human remains, clothing, a firearm and other articles from a site at the base of Sleepy Creek Mountain on Thursday, according to a press release from Sheriff K.C. Bohrer.

An initial investigation has begun, but the investigation is still ongoing.

A preliminary investigation had led investigators to believe the remains belong to John Jesse Willey, who the office received a report about in 2020 and has been missing since 2018, the release said. The preliminary investigation also indicated the person recovered died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound, the release said.

A report of skeletal remains was received on Wednesday at 7:11 p.m., the Morgan County Emergency Dispatch getting a call that remains were located by a mushroom hunter in a wooded area west of Highland Ridge Road at the base of the mountain. Lt. Place, with the Morgan County Sheriff's Department, and Trooper Rigsby, with the West Virginia State Police, responded, along with Bohrer, Chief Walter and Capt. Stapleton.

"It was decided to secure the area since it was becoming dark and rerun at daylight to process the scene," the release said, adding deputies and deputy reserves secured the scene overnight.

source: https://www.journal-news.net/journal-news/morgan-co-sheriffs-dept-responds-to-discovery-of-skeletal-remains/article_42fd5a3c-adc1-5669-9592-3a8452cb1072.html