For Immediate Release

Fatality Crash Investigation

At 4:56 a.m. today, Springfield Police responded to the area of U.S. 65 and Evans Road in reference to a motor vehicle crash. Officers made contact with the caller, identified as Nathan Hensley, age 29, of Rogersville. Mr. Hensley reported that he was northbound on the on-ramp when his vehicle, a 1999 Jeep Grand Cherokee, struck something. He stopped immediately and exited his vehicle to see what he had struck. Mr. Hensley saw damage to his vehicle and saw a “boot” lying on the shoulder of the roadway. Mr. Hensley dialed 911 and waited for Police to arrive.

When Officers arrived on scene, they were able to locate a pedestrian that had been struck by Hensley’s vehicle. The pedestrian was located in a grassy area east of the roadway. He was later identified as Billy Ray Jones, age 56, of Ozark. Mr. Jones was pronounced dead at the scene. Preliminary investigation indicates that Mr. Jones was walking on the roadway at the time of the crash. There is no lighting on the roadway in this area and Mr. Jones was wearing dark-colored clothing. Speed is not believed to be a factor in this crash. Next of kin have been notified and the investigation continues.

SPD Case Number: 10-39806

Media Contact: Lt. Faye Barksdale, phone: 417-864-1810; Release authorized by: Lt. Faye Barksdale