



## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

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# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### ***MDMR Marine Patrol Conducting Investigation of Boat Accident***

BILOXI, Miss. —The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) Marine Patrol and the United States Coast Guard (USCG) are conducting an investigation of a fatal boat accident that occurred early Sunday morning near the eastern tip of Deer Island.

Between 6:20 and 6:25 Sunday morning, a 23-foot, center-console fishing vessel struck an unidentified object that caused the outboard motor to break free from the stern and flip into the boat. The propeller struck the victim, Mark Barhanovich, in the back. Mr. Barhanovich was transported to Ocean Springs Hospital by Acadian Ambulance, but died en route.

The emergency call came in to MDMR Marine Patrol at 6:39 a.m., Sunday; MDMR Marine Patrol officer Matt Kasovich responded.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the state by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit the DMR online at [www.dmr.ms.gov](http://www.dmr.ms.gov).

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