

Dead tagger identified as 16-year-old boy

by UPI

KENNER, La. -- Police in Kenner, La., have identified the graffiti artist killed by a police car on the West Return Canal levee as a 16-year-old boy from the West Bank. Kenner police released the details of the death Thursday night but withheld the youth's name until his relatives have been notified, the New Orleans Times Picayune reported. The boy was caught spraying graffiti by an East Jefferson Levee District police officer around midday. After realizing he wasn't alone, the boy ran for it and the officer followed in his sport utility vehicle. "When he saw the police officer approaching, the male took off running," Kenner Police Chief Steve Caraway said. Caraway said the youth then tripped and fell in front of the SUV, which hit him. The officer driving the vehicle was not identified and has not yet been interviewed by police. "This is very early in the investigation," Caraway said.

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